Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIX, Issue No. 148 | MONDAY JUNE 22, 2009 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

Training for govt accountants, auditors set. PAGE 3
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POLL RESULTS

With the pandemic alert now at Phase 6, do you practice what DPH recommends to avoid the flu?

Always	24
Sometimes	25
Rarely	12
Never	17

Sunday, June 21, 2009

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 6

As of June 19, 2009

Phase 1: Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

Phase 2: An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

Phase 3: An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

Phase 4: Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

Phase 5: A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Escape from Taliban

A *New York Times* reporter known for making investigative trips deep inside dangerous conflict zones escaped from militant captors after more than seven months in captivity in Afghanistan and Pakistan by climbing over a wall, the newspaper said Saturday. **Asia...Page 16**

Tinian North Field as nat'l park pushed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Tinian North Field, which is one of the most significant World War II sites in the Pacific as stated in a September 2001 federal report, is being pushed anew for designation as a national park by Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian).

The Tinian North Field was the staging area for the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to end the war.

See TINIAN on Page 4

Probe on 'harassment' of CNMI travelers at Guam airport sought

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Reyes

Palacios

Senate Pres. Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) and House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) have called for an investigation into alleged "harassment" of U.S. citizens and green card holders from the CNMI who are transiting through Guam. They said CNMI travelers are being questioned beyond the scope deemed to be reasonable for entry to or transit on Guam.

One of the most recent cases, according to Reyes and Palacios, involved a green card holder of Japanese descent who was held on Guam for four and a half hours for what appears to be a criminal interrogation.

"He called me from Guam, saying he's embarrassed and was singled out despite showing all his immigration documents. Some people, when they have a badge, think

See PROBE on Page 4

65 YEARS LATER HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Flame trees in bloom soften the sight of Japanese World War II bunkers at the Saipan International Airport area. The CNMI commemorates the 65th anniversary of the Battles of Saipan and Tinian, from June 15, 1944 to July 9, 1944, which helped end the war that cost the lives of thousands of U.S. and Japanese troops.

'NMI should expect more typhoons due to climate change'

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Due to global warming and climate change there will be more storms and more typhoons visiting the Northern Marianas, according to marine biologist Peter Houk.

Houk has been conducting scientific

See NMI on Page 4

Ex-CUC executive director Guerrero to be sentenced today

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Guerrero

Former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Anthony C. Guerrero is expected to appear today in federal court for his sentencing over his participation in

See EX-CUC on Page 4

Local

Live the Fiesta Way!
What's cooking this week at Chambre BAR
Healthy Menu
Main Course
MONDAY- Salmon Broil Miso Flavor
TUESDAY - Broiled Chicken Breast with Honey Mustard Sauce
WEDNESDAY - Japanese SUMOU Style Hot Pot (CHANKO NABE)
THURSDAY - Chicken Breast Pot au Feu
FRIDAY - Rock fish in Citrus Sauce
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Youngest lawmaker talks about politics and life

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) talks about her Open Government Act lawsuit against Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Eloy Inos, her never ending quest for transparency and accountability in government, her experiences as the youngest female lawmaker in the history of the CNMI, and the joys of driving the least attractive car parked at the Legislature on Capital Hill, among other things.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

One cannot miss her red 1994 Nissan Sentra XE at the legislative parking lot, which seems like a showroom of fancy pickup trucks, sport utility vehicles, and cars owned by other lawmakers and their staffers.

But owning the least attractive car among elected officials on Capital Hill is the least of Rep. Tina Sablan's concerns, especially with her ongoing Open Government Act lawsuit against Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos.

"I'm not surprised that they are fighting as hard as they are. But I am still disappointed and still baffled why. What are we really hiding? What is so dire about these records that will make them fight so hard?" Sablan (R-Saipan) said in an interview at her office hours before the Supreme Court granted Fitial and Inos's petition to hold some documents that she requested.

The Supreme Court decision came a few hours after the Superior Court denied the governor's appeal to put on hold its order to release documents showing how the CNMI government is paying for its lawsuit against federalization.

Those documents should have been turned over last Saturday at 11:30am.

Instead, Fitial and Inos have been ordered by the Supreme Court to file their opening brief on July 2.

The Fitial administration, for its part, said it is "pleased with the opportunity to plead our case before the Supreme Court."

"We hope they will consider our arguments in the public's interest regarding federalization," Press Secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. said.

Sablan said the lawsuit, which has now dragged on for eight months, sends a strong message to government officials to honor the public's right to know how their taxpayer dollars are being spent. She said the Open Government Act empowers ordinary people—and not just those with a law degree—to demand transparency and accountability in government.

No lawyer, no staffer

Sablan represents herself in the Open Government Act lawsuit which she said is a victory for the people. Besides not having a lawyer in the celebrated case, she also does not have an office employee.

The 28-year-old lawmaker does her own research, runs her office errands, answers her office phone, and cleans her own office. Despite all these, she

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BRUCE L. MAILMAN is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and has provided immigration services in the CNMI since 1989

MAYA B. KARA is a former CNMI Acting Attorney General, Chief Legislative Counsel, Governor's and Lt. Governor's Legal Counsel and DOL Hearing Officer

Training for govt accountants, auditors set

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Government accountants, auditors and financial managers are set to undergo training on managing grants, which is instrumental for the CNMI as a recipient of millions of dollars in federal stimulus funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, among other things.

Dr. Peter C. Eche, director of training at the Office of Personnel Management, said Charles Hester has been contracted by the Pacific Islands Training Initiative of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School to conduct two separate training titled "Managing Grant: Administrative Requirements and Cost Principles for Grants and Other Agreements" to government employees.

Accountants, auditors, and financial managers who need a working knowledge of the new and ever changing administrative requirements and cost principles applicable to federal financial assistance are encouraged to participate in the training.

"Employees who are managing grants and performing financial related job responsibilities are encouraged to attend," Eche said in a June 17 memorandum to government department and activity heads.

The first training's class presentation will be from June 30 to July 1, from 8am to 4pm, at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, while the worksite visit will be from July 2 to 3.

The second training's class presentation will also be held at the Multi-Purpose Center from July 6 to 7, while the worksite visit is set for July 8 and 9.

Eche said the instructor, Charles Hester, will schedule one-on-one sessions with course participants during the worksite visit.

Pre-registration is required no later than June 25. Those who are interested should contact Maxima B. Cruz, OPM training coordinator, at 234 6925/6958/8036.

The course provides participants with detailed information about administrative requirements and cost principles they must follow and against which they are audited recipients and sub-recipients of federal assistance organization.

For grant recipients receiving funding under ARRA, the training opportunity could provide a needed boost in keeping important programs afloat in these trying economic times.

"However, the rules and requirements behind managing these funds are truly a work in progress. There are new eligibility and reporting requirements that will increase grantee accounting and oversight workloads, require modifications to information systems and strain staff capabilities," the course description states.

5.7 earthquake jolts Rota and Saipan

An earthquake with a magnitude of 5.7 on the Richter scale hit Rota and Saipan early Saturday morning.

The Emergency Management Office said there was no tsunami threat to the Marianas nor was there damage to property or injuries reported to the agency.

Only few people on Rota and Saipan felt the quake.

EMO said the earthquake occurred at 1:06am and was centered at latitude 14.057 degrees north and 145.139 degrees east.

This is about 15 miles south-southwest of Rota and 88 miles south-southwest of Saipan.

Last May 23, an earthquake with a magnitude of 5.1 on the Richter scale hit Rota. About a month earlier on April 17, three earthquakes with a magnitude of 4.7, 4.9, and 5.0 on the Richter scale also hit the island. Like Saturday's temblor, EMO reported there was no tsunami threat to the Marianas and no damage to property or injuries reported in the four aforementioned quakes. ***(PR)***

*On approved credit. (O.A.C.) Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for details. **EPA estimated hwy mpg.

Feds approve China Eastern flights to Saipan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Transportation approved China Eastern Airlines' request for a one-year authority to resume charter flights between Shanghai in China and Saipan in the CNMI.

DOT issued the decision on June 9, 2009, a year after China Eastern filed on June 13, 2008 the renewal application to be exempt from 49 U.S.C. 41301 to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property and mail between Shanghai and Saipan.

The exemption authority expires on June 9, 2010.

A copy of the DOT decision is available online at http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocumentDetail&o=09000064809ca74b.

As of yesterday, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino said it has already received bookings in connection with the expected resumption of charter flights beginning in July

DOT, in its notice, said it found China Eastern Airlines qualified to perform the proposed operations, that DOT's action was consistent with the department's policy, and that the grant of authority was consistent with public interest and would not constitute a major regulatory action under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975.

On May 10, 2004, DOT allowed China Eastern to fly between Shanghai and Saipan. China Eastern made its first charter flight from Shanghai to Saipan in July 2004.

DOT subsequently granted China Eastern's renewal applications on June 1, 2005, June 1, 2006, and June 20, 2007.

The resumption of charter flights from China is considered a boost to the CNMI's tourism, especially Tinian which relies heavily on Chinese tourists.

Government and private businesses have asked the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to include China and Russia in the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program which will take into effect on Nov. 28 which is also the start of transition to federal immigration system in the CNMI.

EX-CUC

From Page 1

the Rydlyme case.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson on Friday moved the sentencing of Guerrero for today at 8am instead of 9am as the court had earlier set.

The judge may impose up to five years in prison or a mere probation on Guerrero pursuant to a plea agreement.

The defendant signed a plea agreement with the U.S. government in August 2008 or shortly after the indictment was filed against him and his co-defendants—former Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez, former Commerce Secretary James A. Santos, and Joaquina V. Santos.

Guerrero testified for the U.S. government during the jury trial of Villagomez and the Santos couple. He was the last witness called by the prosecution.

Villagomez, the Santos couple, and Guerrero were charged for engaging in a scheme to bilk the CNMI government out of thousands of dollars with a series of needless purchases of a de-scalant chemical with a brand name Rydlyme.

The U.S. government then filed a new indictment, adding bribery charges to the previous three charges against Villagomez and the Santos couple.

Last April 24, after nearly four weeks of trial and less than a day of deliberation, the federal jury returned a verdict of guilty on all counts against Villagomez and the Santos couple.

The sentencing of Guerrero was originally set for Feb. 27, 2009. But last January, Munson postponed the sentencing after Guerrero's counsel, Robert T. Torres, and the prosecutor, assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley, agreed to re-set the sentencing hearing.

Torres and O'Malley requested to re-set the sentencing because at that time the jury trial of Villagomez and the Santoses had been rescheduled to March 30, 2009.

Torres and O'Malley agreed that postponing the sentencing hearing until after the conclusion of that trial would be appropriate.

The sentencing of Villagomez and the Santoses was set for July 28, 2009.

NMI

From Page 1

studies about the marine environment of the CNMI for years.

He was formerly with the Division of Environmental Quality and is currently working at the Pacific Marine Resources Institute Inc.

"The impact of climate change is a very serious matter to the CNMI," said Houk as he gave his perspective on the issue.

Adaptation to climate change and how Pacific islanders would plan for their future without relying too much on fuel are just a couple of topics in this week's 26th Pacific Islands Environment Conference ser from June 22 to 25 at the Saipan World Resort.

Houk said that the obvious impact of climate change would be on the local community especially the fisher folks and the farmers.

"Its direct impact would be on land. A of people might not realize it," he said.

Houk said global warming will become serious because the bleaching effect will increase.

He explained that this would destroy some of the islands' marine resources and it would be difficult for the corals to recover.

"A lot of areas would take longer to recover especially in high level of pollution like Lau Lau Bay," he said.

Houk said that although Lau Lau Bay is still picturesque it doesn't look like the way it was before, based on scientific studies in 1991.

The area, he said, has now a low level of recovery because of the high level of pollution.

Compared to other areas with low level of pollution like in the back side of Tinian and on the island of Rota, many areas on Saipan are having a hard time recovering.

"More so in the future if we don't make the necessary planning. So we must keep our healthy reefs that have ecological function because these are the areas that can recover quickly," he said.

Delegates for the PIEC conference will come from the U.S. mainland, Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, Palau, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and host CNMI. Off-island delegates are expected to arrive today in time for tomorrow's opening sessions with this year's theme "Climate of Change: Energizing a Sustainable Future for Pacific Islands."

The conference is sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Before that, the CNMI Energy Summit and Workshops will start at 8:30am today with the participants set to discuss topics in renewable energy, energy technology (wind, solar, geothermal, ocean), and energy efficiency.

TINIAN

From Page 1

When completed in 1945, North Field was the largest airbase in the Pacific, perhaps in the world, according to a special study on the North Field dated September 2001 by the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Park Service.

A copy of the NPS report is available online at www.nps.gov/pwrh/Tinian/tiniandr.htm.

"As the U.S. military prepares plans as to how best utilize its lease of Tinian lands for training purposes, I feel this may be a good time to revisit the idea of establishing North Field as a national park," Hofschneider said in a June 18 letter to Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan.

But while NPS had said that the North Field "meets the suitability for inclusion in the national park system," then U.S. Commander in Chief, Pacific, Admiral Thomas B. Fargo, stated that the U.S. Navy's training needs would preclude North Field's inclusion in the national park system.

"I could foresee the military utilizing portions of North Field for training areas, but could also envision a segment of the area as park land that could be compatible with military use," Hofschneider told Sablan, who has yet to respond to *Saipan Tribune*'s request for comment on the senator's letter.

Hofschneider also asked Sablan to meet with Admiral Robert F. Willard and the NPS service director to again discuss the possibility of designating the North Field as a national park.

The area was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as an historic district and has been designated a national historic landmark. The landmark encompasses approximately 2,500 acres.

The 2001 study by NPS said the North Field represents one of the major historic events of the Pacific War: the strategic bombing of the Japanese homeland and the use of the atomic bomb in war.

"These events led directly to the surrender of Japan and the end of World War II. Presently, this historic theme is not adequately represented in the national park system, and North Field represents the most intact example of this theme. Therefore, this study finds North Field also meets the test of suitability for inclusion in the national park system," NPS said in its report.

But the U.S. Navy retains exclusive use, control and possession of lands encompassing the national historic landmark based on a 50-year lease agreement with the CNMI, the landowner.

"The U.S. Navy's official position regarding its long-term strategic need for North Field is to continue its use for military training. And that this use precluded considering North Field as a national historical park administered by the National Park Service as a unit of the national park system," NPS said.

But NPS' recommendations included additional opportunities for off-site interpretation of North Field at War in the Pacific National Historical Park on Guam and both off-site and on-site interpretation of North Field by NPS personnel from American Memorial Park on Saipan.

"Other NPS interpretive opportunities recommended included producing travel guides and publications telling CNMI visitors about North Field and other significant places on Saipan where historic events related to the World War II Marianas Campaign took place," said NPS.

The CNMI is currently observing the 65th anniversary of the Battles of Saipan and Tinian, which was from June 15, 1944 to July 9, 1944. Last week, five veterans of the Battles of Saipan and Tinian from the U.S. came back to the CNMI for the commemoration activities.

PROBE

From Page 1

they're God or the whole government. In this case, Guam immigration officer Brian Tablan did just that, holding the CNMI traveler for over four hours at the airport," Reyes told *Saipan Tribune* in a phone interview on Saturday.

Reyes said his former wife, a U.S. citizen and originally from the Philippines, also went through the same ordeal whenever she transited through the Guam airport despite proving that she had proper documents.

"There are many others who were subjected to this kind of treatment at the Guam airport," he added.

Reyes and Palacios, in a June 3 letter to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, said this "troubling situation" must be investigated to ensure that the interests of people of the CNMI are protected.

"Governor, we need to let Guam know that we, too, are holding U.S. passports and our passports are issued by the same authority as Guam residents' passports are processed from. The CNMI immigration in the past, now, and into the future will never treat our brothers and sisters from Guam the way residents from the CNMI are being treated there," Palacios and Reyes told Fitial.

Palacios, in a separate interview, said they have yet to hear from Fitial about their letter as of yesterday.

"We need to find a way to stop this practice by any means legally available, perhaps, through the possibility of applying government protocol, legislative resolutions, or other political means. We stand ready to draft a joint resolution if there is a need for it. But the harassment needs to stop," the lawmakers told Fitial.

Press Secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. said the report is "disconcerting and I expect our administration to share the concerns of the presiding officers of the Legislature."

"As you know, Guam immigration is controlled by the federal government, not the government of Guam," he said.

Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho, who was given a copy of the lawmakers' letter to Fitial, along with members of the Guam Legislature and CNMI Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan, has yet to respond to *Saipan Tribune*'s request for comment on the issue.

Camacho is expected to be on Saipan this week for the 26th Pacific Islands Environment Conference co-hosted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the governments of the CNMI, Guam, and American Samoa.

The Senate president said he has also contacted Carlotta Leon Guerrero, chief of staff of Guam Gov. Mike Cruz, on the matter.

"Carlotta said she's been trying to get in touch with the Guam immigration office about this but they have not been returning her calls. Guam immigration officers' sense of arrogance is disturbing. It has to be stopped. If they continue to treat Asians like that, how could they expect Guam to be a final destination for travelers?" he added.

Palacios and Reyes said the May 29 incident at the Guam airport involving a green card holder living in the CNMI felt harassed and wondered why he was being treated in such a manner despite satisfying all pertinent immigration documents.

"Immigration officer Brian Tablan was not only very hostile but also applied abusive language in an attempt to scare the passenger… He felt that the special attention given to him appears to be because he is of Japanese descent. Is this how Japanese Americans are to be treated in Guam? We wonder if we are back again to the previous immigration practices in Guam where CNMI residents are treated like second-class citizens many years ago?" they told the governor.

They added that the Guam immigration officer told the traveler who is a green card holder that if he is to return to the CNMI, he needs to possess employment paperwork.

YOUNGEST

From Page 2

manages to focus on her quest for accountability and transparency in government, among other things.

She said in her one-and-a-half years in office, she has learned a lot about politics and life.

Early on, she would often be called out of order during sessions of the 16th House of Representatives but she has since adjusted. Her older colleagues would either cut her off or tell her that "this is how we do it here" when she asks for a debate on bills and issues or when she thinks lawmakers are themselves breaking the law.

But she said the debates at the House are now conducted "more courteously" and "more civil" than it was a year ago.

"It's not like before when the gavel gets pounded on me all the time or people call me out of order," she said, referring to instances where she would ask her colleagues not to rush to pass bills that are important without debate, discussion, and consultation. At some point, the House sergeant-at-arms would be called so that she could stop arguing her point during the session.

Sablan also said she noticed that more public hearings are now being conducted, more committee reports are now on the session agenda, and more debates occur at sessions compared to a year ago.

"In the beginning, I would ask questions, ask for a debate, I would present my position and not get any response back and they would just say motion to end debate, and I would object and then everybody begin yelling, and Arnold (House Speaker Arnold Palacios) would pound the gavel…The debate was often ended before it even started or because we were rushing on bills that were really important and should not be rushed. Some bills were passed on first and final reading when we just got it that morning and that happened so much in the beginning last year," she said.

Saving money

Local lawmakers earn a little over $39,000 a year, and most of them use all the funds in their operational account which stands at around $99,400 for Fiscal Year 2009 and the leadership account of some $110,400.

But Sablan spent only $614.84 of her operational account in FY 2008, mostly for office supplies which she has yet to replenish in FY 2009, and for a public hearing on Rota and Tinian when she was still a member of the House Judicial and Governmental Operations Committee.

She said other lawmakers have been requesting her to tap into her operational account since she's not using most of it, but Sablan said if she could be efficient in her running of her office with little funding, then others could also do it.

As of today, she has yet to file her candidacy. "I have until Aug. 10 to file my candidacy," said Sablan, who has a bachelor's degree in Conservation Science from the College of Santa Fe. She graduated summa cum laude in 2003.

Since she came back to Saipan, she's been driving her red car which she bought from her uncle. The car does not have an air conditioner, and she stops at the side of the road when the rain is so heavy.

Sablan, who represents Precinct 1, which covers San Antonio, San Vicente. and Koblerville, is one of the youngest lawmakers in CNMI history. She was elected into office at the age of 26 in November 2007. Prior to her election, Sablan was a waste reduction and recycling coordinator with the Division of Environmental Quality, and remains an active public forum coordinator and environmental volunteer and educator.

And she's been called names, one of which is being born with a stomachache. Despite such treatment from elected officials, Sablan is among the most vocal of elected officials and is known for her unwavering campaign against corruption.

At the Legislature, some lawmakers have been pointing out that Sablan has introduced or co-sponsored only a few bills.

But the measures she introduced aimed at more transparency and accountability in government were killed even before debated, including the resident foreign national bill, a resolution to investigate former Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez, and House compliance with the Open Government Act.

"I am sure there are lawmakers who believe that a measure of a good lawmaker is the number of bills he introduced. But I think being a good legislator is much more than introducing a bill. It's about doing research, it's about engaging your constituents and getting to know their concerns, it's about getting oversight hearing and ensuring public laws are enforced, it's about passing a budget and ensuring that agencies that are tasked with carrying essential public services are properly funded, and it's about making a stand on issues that matter to your constituents and to you as a citizen," she said.

She added, "A good public servant must be a good citizen."

Saipan Tribune Make it your DAILY habit.

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Only 30,000 miles, AT, 4-cylinder, great on gas! $9,995
2005 Toyota Matrix
Just 42,000 miles, AT, 4-cylinder, great on gas! $11,995
2007 Hyundai Santa Fe GLS
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Palau delegate elected new APNLC president

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Participants of the 31st Conference of American Pacific Nursing Leaders Council lauded the CNMI for successfully hosting the confab.

Delegates also hope for further growth of the nursing profession in the region as they elected their new set of officers at the conclusion of the five-day event last Friday.

Palau will host next year's conference and one of its eight delegates, Patricia Maech, was elected president.

Maech, RN, BSN, is coordinator for the Quality Assurance and Continuing Education at the Office of Nursing Services at the Ministry of Health in Palau.

She replaced Toaga A. Seumalo of American Samoa, who had just finished her two-year term.

Seumalo said Maech has been with APNLC for a long time and she is confident that she would be a good leader as she vowed to continue assisting her with the implementation of the goals and objectives of the group.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

The incoming and outgoing president of the American Pacific Nursing Leaders pose at the conclusion of the 31st conference Friday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. At right is the new president Patricia Maech from Palau and at left is former president Toaga A. Seumalo of American Samoa.

Other participants from Palau were Terry Ngirmang, Merlyn Basilius, Wolcatt Erungel, Patrick Aribuk, Josepha Tiobech, Damiana Kunihiro, and Jocelyn Tonyokwe.

"I wish her well. She's very capable," Seumalo said of Maech, who urged the participants to join in working as a team and improve the nursing profession.

Both Seumalo and Maech thanked the organizers for the excellent progress of the conference this year.

"For me I will work for more specific plans—strategies in quality assurance services, education opportunities for the nurses as well as leadership and management training," Maech said.

Seumalo thanked the people of the CNMI for their hospitality saying she will have many fond memories of the island.

She said she has no doubt that they will have better perspective in the future.

The Pacific Islands Health Officers Association was represented in the conference, a big stride in the creation of a network and collaboration among the health professionals in the region.

The new vice president is Rensely Alik, the former treasurer, while the new treasurer is Dr. Maria Salomon, from the University of Guam School of Nursing.

The group's secretary, Irene Nero, still has a year left in her term.

Salomon also said the conference went well in the sense that they were able to discuss some of the major issues facing their profession and the strategies they will have to implement to tackle these issues such as the roles of nurses in giving a better service to the patients.

Judy Souviney, who is working for a grant to help the nursing faculty at the Colleges of the Marshall Islands, said it was a healthy experience for the participants.

Cathy Wasem of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, said it was an innovating conference.

"The APNLC is really working on issues that affects the healthcare sector in the Pacific," she said.

Wasem noted that a three-day training started Friday at the Northern Marianas College that is intended to help nursing programs in the CNMI and encourage more students to take up nursing.

Kristine Qureshi, an associate professor at the University of Hawaii in Manoa, said some health policies will be better addressed.

"APNLC really speaks about nursing profession in the region. The group proves that it is very valuable for health officials in the region," she said.

Stanley issues final request to NMC Board of Regents

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After failing to get a positive response to his requests for specific documents, Rep. Stanley Torres appealed anew—this time to the Board of Regents who have direct control over the Northern Marianas College presiden, Dr. Carmen Fernandez.

Torres wrote the board, through its chairman Charles Cepeda, for information relative to claims against the college for employment practices under the leadership of the incumbent president.

Torres

"NMC president Fernandez has not learned the lesson of the court's last ruling that the people have a fundamental right to know if its money is being squandered because of poor management," says Torres.

The lawmaker added that the economy is ailing and lawmakers will not allow public funds or student tuition and fees to cover over the mistakes of any college administrator.

Fernandez and the college counsel repeatedly rejected the request of the lawmaker for some documentation that will invade the privacy and confidential information of its employees.

Torres said he will keep on asking for the documents because it's the public's right to know if payments were made by Fernandez and the board to settle employment and contract disputes in the institution.

"My only interest is to know how much and how many times the president and the board have made payments to settle disputes using the people's money," he added.

Torres said that "if the allegations against Fernandez are false then she must prove it."

"It isn't for the people to prove that she is violating the laws or policies of the land," he said, adding that he's hopeful on the positive action of the regents on his appeal.

The lawmaker, who has been battling with NMC in several court issues, said he's willing to bring the matter to a higher level, again.

"The advice of their attorneys is only that: advice. The law firm will get paid regardless if they are right or wrong. If need be, I will be forced to prove in court that they are wrong in wanting to hide information," added Torres.

The lawmaker believes that confidentiality agreements cannot suppress the truth of any wrong doing.

Meantime, Cepeda was off-island when contacted by *Saipan Tribune* for comment.

Lack of funding cancels MHS summer program

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas High School has stopped offering summer classes due to lack of funding, according to principal Karen Borja.

"We're not holding summer classes this school year like what we did last year…because we don't have enough money," she said.

MHS first offered summer classes in 2007 and it saw over 200 students participate in the program.

Borja admitted that the school, with limited funding, spent $15,000 to $20,000 in conducting the summer program.

MHS is home to about 1,200 students every year but it only is receiving operational funds ranging from $60,000 to $80,000 per school year.

The principal admitted that the suspension of summer classes will help save the school on maintenance and utility expenses.

To remedy MHS' lack of summer program this year, Borja said they're working with Saipan Southern High School to accept their enrollees for the summer.

On Friday, SSHS principal Peter Lea'u confirmed that the school will continue holding its summer program to help students earn the needed credits for their graduation.

He said approximately 80 to 100 students enroll at SSHS every summer.

Majority of them are juniors who need to make up credits to advance to senior level the following school year.

Lea'u said though SSHS is willing to accommodate and accept summer enrollees from MHS this year, he said their priority is to their own students.

"We prioritize our students…we can accept enrollees from other schools depending on the availability of classes," he said.

But definitely, the SSHS principal said, they will not accept freshmen students into the summer program.

Because of the policy mandating 28 credit requirements for graduating seniors in public high schools, Lea'u said they're anticipating an increase in the summer student population this year.

The board policy that changed the credit requirements was approved in 2006 and this year's batch of graduates are the first to be affected.

Lea'u said summer students accommodated at SSHS are those who need to make up for their classes and credits and not for those who want to advance their requirements.

There are two sessions scheduled this summer at SSHS which will start today and continue through August.

Lea'u said these classes are mostly for English, math, science, and social studies.

At Kagman High School, summer program will start on July 20 through August 20.

Every year, about 50 students at KHS registered in the summer school taking their short credits for English, math, science, and social studies.

Apology letter-writing nonresident worker charged with theft

An alien worker allegedly stole money from his employer many times, but when caught would just write letters of apology.

The employer had enough and decided to file a police complaint.

Isidro C. Doctolero Jr., 40, was arrested in Kannat Tabla on Thursday afternoon on charges of theft.

At Friday's hearing, Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman imposed a $500 cash and $4,500 unsecured bond for the temporary release of Doctolero. Preliminary hearing was set for June 25.

Detective Joaquin I. Deleon Guerrero stated in his report that Mr. Jong Myung Kim came to the Department of Public Safety to file a complaint against the defendant.

Kim told police that Doctolero worked for Kim's sister companies as electronic repairman and rental payment collector.

Kim owns M&H Corp., a commercial building, renting out office spaces and rooms for rent. He also holds shares for two sister companies—A-Plus Electronics and A-Plus Pawnshop.

Investigation showed that Doctolero first stole over $1,000 in November 2008 and when caught wrote a letter of apology to Kim.

Kim forgave Doctolero, who paid the amount in installments.

The defendant, however, stole more money in various times and when caught, wrote letters of apology to Kim.

Kim showed to police Doctolero's six letters of apology.

Since March 2009 to June 6, the defendant allegedly stole a total of $4,078, including the remaining balance in previous incident. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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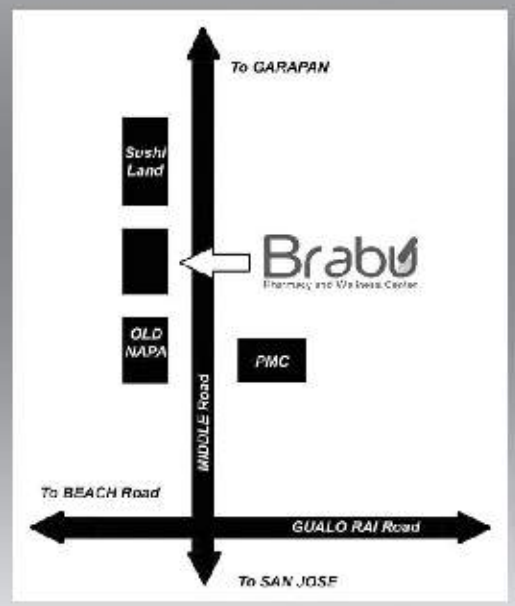

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Live fire releases set at FDM

The Emergency Management Office, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas Guam, would like to inform the general public that the U.S. Military Unit would be conducting live fire releases on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla.

The schedule date and time are as follow:

- June 22, 2009 from 1pm to 7pm HSC 25 Laser Training
- June 22, 2009 from 5pm to 1am 96 EBS Simulated Bomb Procedures
- June 23, 2009 from 11am to 5pm HSC- 25 Laser Training
- June 24, 2009 from 8am to 6pm 525 EBS Aerial Maneuvers

The general location of this activity will be on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla Training Area (R7201) on a ten (10) nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is strongly advising the general public especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators to stay away from this area during the time and date indicated.

The cooperation and understanding of the general public is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Emergency Management Office, Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. ***(PR)***

Reward out for missing cat

PAWS president Katie Busenkell is asking for the public's help in finding Aladdin, a white and grey colored cat, last seen Friday, June 19, 2009, at about 7am, near the Joeten Public Library and the Office of the Attorney General-Criminal Division in Susupe.

"Aladdin has a very special story. He belonged to a community oriented family that had to leave island for medical reasons. It is very important to the family that Aladdin be well cared for while they go through a difficult time in their lives, so please help us bring Aladdin home."

A reward is being offered for information leading to Aladdin's safe return.

If you have seen Aladdin, please call 256-0243 or 285-PAWS. ***(PR)***

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VOTE IN THE CNMI GOP OPEN PRIMARY ON JUNE 27, 2009

The polls in all election precincts on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian, will be open on SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2009, FROM 7 AM TO 6 PM. All registered voters in the CNMI are eligible to cast their ballots in the Open Primary.

For more information, please contact the CNMI GOP office at 235-4GOP/4467, or stop by the CNMI GOP office at the Oleai Center, Suite 113, San Jose Village, Saipan. Also visit our website at www.cnmigop.org.

Paid for by the Republican Party of the Northern Mariana Islands, David J. Attao, Treasurer

Paid for by the Republican Party of the Northern Mariana Islands, David J. Attao, Treasurer

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 22, 1999

Tourist arrivals drop 4 percent

Due to reduction in airline seat capacity, visitor arrivals in the month of May declined 4 percent to 39,558 compared to the same period last year, according to the Marianas Visitors Authority. Airlines seats from Guam alone, where many tourists take their connecting flight to the Northern Marianas, plunged 38 percent. Currently, there are 4,050 airline seats from Guam on a weekly basis against 6,486 logged last year. Members of the Japan-Saipan Travel Association blame the lack of direct flight to Saipan for its shrinking market, a situation that benefits neighboring Guam where direct air service is available. Tour operators explain tourists frown on the 30 minutes wait they had to endure in Hagatna airport before reaching Saipan.

Officials: 'We are partly to blame'

While admitting that they share the responsibilities for the environmental problems besetting the Northern Marianas today, political leaders yesterday vowed to carry out measures to make sure that the island's limited resources are properly managed. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio warned that an environmental disaster may occur in the CNMI as a result of rapid population growth, development pressures and unsound management of the resources unless people work together in taking care of the island's ecosystems. In preserving the island's ecosystems, officials must strike a balance between seeking economic development and carrying out environmental protection measures, Tenorio told the opening of the 18th Pacific Islands Conference.

June 22, 2000

Retro pay uncertain

There is no assurance that the 2,000 government employees who have been waiting for their salary increase for the past nine years will get their money in the immediate future. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio said yesterday that while his administration is doing all it can to seek funding for the so-called retroactive pay to these employees, the government has other financial obligations to take care of. Retirement share and utility payments are among the pressing expenditures that the administration will have to settle and seek funding amid the current financial difficulties confronting the CNMI.

DPH seeks tighter inspection of cargoes from FSM

Department of Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez yesterday asked the Division of Customs to check all cargoes coming from FSM which may contain food items contaminated with cholera-causing bacteria. In a letter to Customs Chief Jose C. Mafnas, the public health chief said he wants strict inspections of all containers or cargoes coming from FSM to deter entry of food from these islands. The request was in support of Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio's order banning the importation of raw or cooked food coming from FSM after a food poisoning incident downed close to 100 people who attended a weddidng reception last Saturday.

June 22, 2001

Medicaid patient dies

A Medicaid recipient died of cardiac arrest early this month, after Straub Clinic and Hospital physicians allegedly failed to perform an immediate bypass operation. Reports disclosed that the patient (whose name the Tribune decided to withhold) suffered heart complications. Straub doctors reportedly refused to perform the operation citing the patient's "high-risk" condition. But public health officials immediately refuted reports of possible protocol lapses that resulted in the patient's death. Reports reaching the CNMI government claimed the patient was diagnosed anemic. The same reports also claimed lthat ack of matching blood type hampered efforts to have the patient operated on.

FDM bombing ends, temporarily

The most recent batch of bombing exercises at Farallon de Medenilla, an uninhabited limestone island north of Saipan, formally ends today, the Emergency Management Office said. This temporary halts the air of disfavor over the military exercises of the United States' Armed Forces. Legislators and local officials, including Senate Floor Leader Pete Reyes, earlier voiced concerns over the extent of environmental damage caused by the bombings, which were carried out by the US military in its effort to maintain its status as the most powerful nation in the world.

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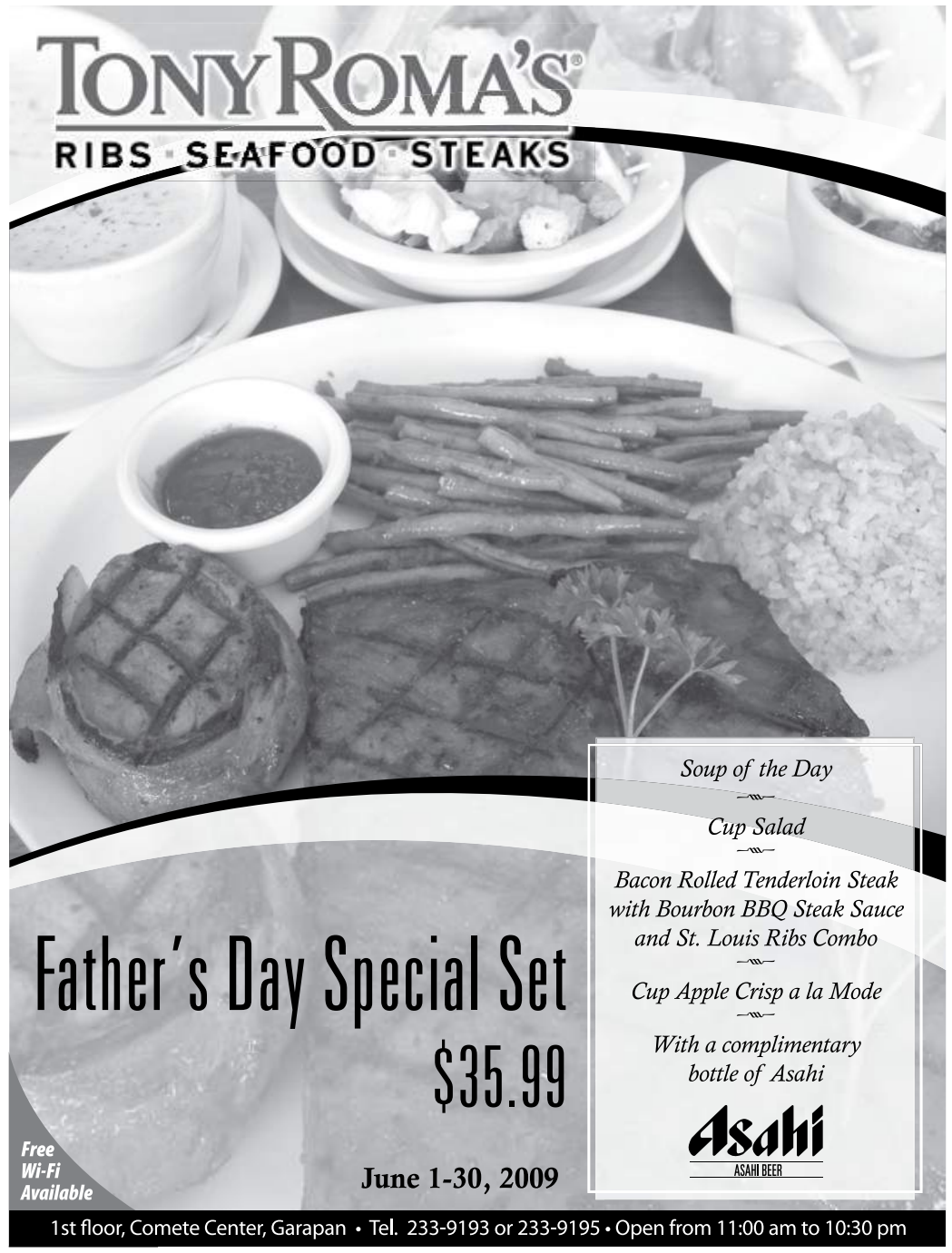
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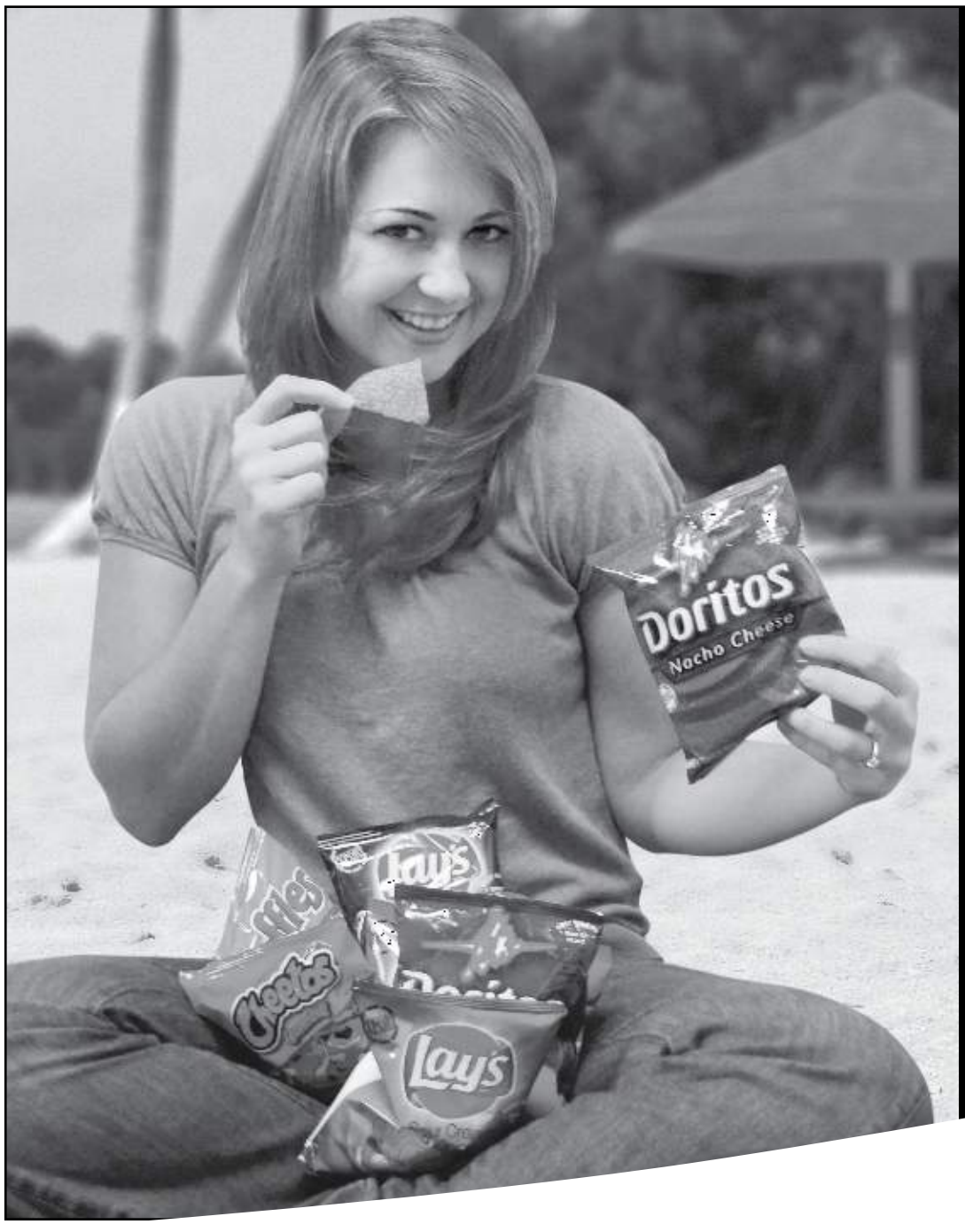

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Hafa Adai!
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CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XIX, Issue No. 148

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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EDITORIAL

Iran, revealed

In its own obtuse and menacing way, Friday's speech by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's supreme leader, was actually useful. Khamenei made it plain that he and the vast security establishment he heads have no intention of permitting anyone but his own favorite, incumbent Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, to become president. He issued a threat to the multitudes who have bravely and peacefully denounced alleged electoral fraud: "If there is any bloodshed, leaders of the protests will be held directly responsible." And he rehearsed tired conspiracy theories, blaming the historic unrest on "dirty Zionists," the United States and Britain. In so doing, Khamenei clarified the true nature of his regime and the true nature of the challenge it poses to the United States and the world.

That challenge is, and has been, a matter of intense debate. For some in the United States, including the last administration, the very notion of negotiating with the Islamic republic was suspect. The Obama administration came to office promising a new approach, one that would treat Iran's external conduct separately from its internal character. An approach that did not threaten the Islamic republic's claim to power, the administration reasoned, would stand a better chance of restraining its nuclear ambitions and support for terrorism.

Now a previously discounted factor—the Iranian people—has arisen and scrambled that expectation. When Khamenei said Friday that "the enemies (of Iran) are targeting the Islamic establishment's legitimacy by questioning the election and its authenticity before and after" the vote, he was backhandedly admitting that the people's protests pose a direct challenge to him and the system he has led for two decades. Khamenei's words will probably not satisfy his citizenry, though they might cow it. His speech's impact on the Iranian opposition will begin to show within the next few days. There are two possible results: either a change of (or in) the regime, or its perpetuation through force on a base of domestic support so narrow it would increasingly justify its existence through external conflict.

Either way, President Obama's policy cannot remain unaffected. As of today, it remains tantalizingly possible that he may be able to engage a new and more reasonable Iranian government. But it is depressingly plausible that he will be facing a cornered, radicalized despotism. It would be unthinkable to attempt to do business with such a regime while pretending that nothing fundamental has changed. That is why Obama was ill-advised to muse that "the difference between (President Mahmoud) Ahmadinejad and (opposition candidate Mir Hossein) Mousavi in terms of their actual positions may not be as great as has been advertised."

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown struck a more appropriate note when he said that "we want Iran to be part of the international community and not to be isolated. But it is for Iran to prove ... that they can respect these basic rights."

Nuclear weapons are not threatening to the United States in the hands of France or, for that matter, other democracies such as India or Israel—even though the latter two are not part of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. But when unstable, ambitious and ideologically extreme tyrannies get the bomb, the menace can extend worldwide. In that sense, Khamenei has done us all a favor by revealing what kind of government Iran will have as long as he's around.

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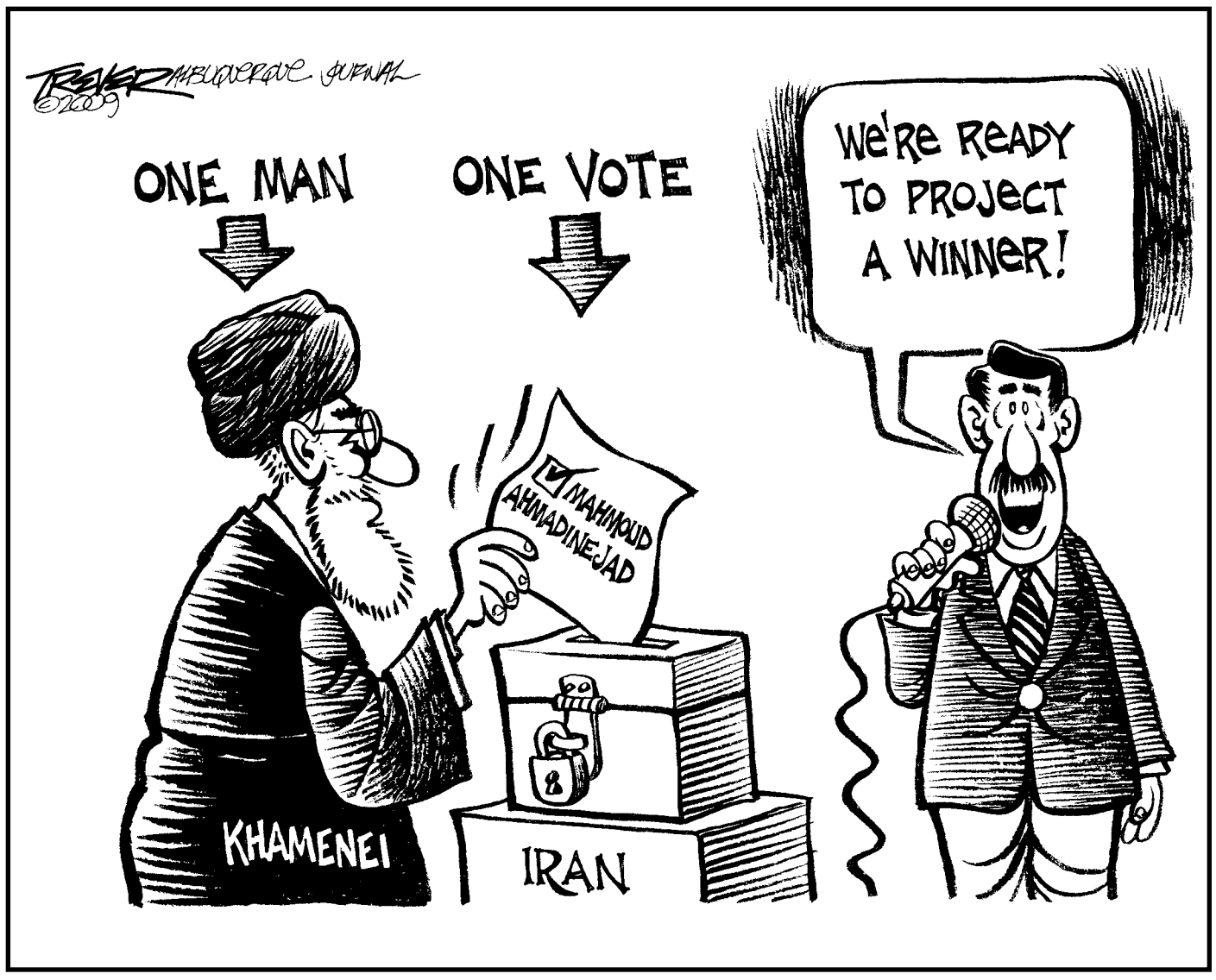

Tomorrow's auto industry

By RON GETTELFINGER
Special to The Washington Post

The writer is president of the United Auto Workers.

Chrysler's alliance with Fiat, finalized this month, creates a fresh start for the company and for tens of thousands of workers. A restructuring process is also underway at General Motors and is on track to proceed quickly.

The rapid turnarounds at GM and Chrysler are being accomplished with government involvement and because a majority of industry stakeholders agreed, in advance, to painful sacrifices.

More important, taxpayers—who are providing billions of dollars to preserve a critical U.S. manufacturing sector—now have a right to ask: How will this be different than previous attempts at restructuring?

Here's how:

Company creditors—the U.S. government, bankers, bondholders and the trust funds for United Auto Workers retirees—have agreed to swap debt for equity at Chrysler and GM, eliminating billions in liabilities. This will free up funds to reinvest in the businesses and make private investment more attractive.

The companies will also reduce their operations, achieving significant cost reductions at a severe human cost. In addition to lost jobs and tax revenue from closed plants, suppliers and dealerships, there will be broad impact in affected communities, ranging from farmers who once raised cattle to provide leather for automobile seats to lost sales, jobs and income at family-owned restaurants and groceries near closed facilities.

The companies will realize additional savings as a result of the labor agreements ratified by UAW members this year, which come on top of concessions made in 2005, 2007 and 2008. Workers have accepted frozen and reduced wages; retirees living on fixed incomes will pay higher health-care costs.

While making necessary sacrifices, the restructured domestic auto industry is now in a position to respond to critical environmental concerns. As part of new UAW agreements, GM and Chrysler committed to produce new small cars in the United States. Chrysler's alliance with Fiat will bring new fuel-efficient technologies here; Ford is producing industry-leading hybrids, and GM will soon introduce the Chevy Volt, the first mass-market electric-powered car.

These green technologies will help companies meet the rigorous national standard for fuel economy and greenhouse gas emissions put forward by President Obama. The new standard will reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil and help combat climate change.

Domestic automakers are ready to compete. But fair competition requires a level playing field, which does not yet exist in the global auto industry.

Toyota, Honda, Nissan and other Japanese automakers, for example, sold an astounding 94 percent of all passenger cars in Japan in 2008. Korean automakers control 96 percent of auto sales in their home country. By contrast, Chrysler, Ford and GM have a combined share of less than 50 percent of the U.S. auto market.

The scarcity of U.S. vehicle sales in Asia did not come about because hardly anybody in Korea or Japan wants a Chevy, a Ford or a Jeep. It happened because Korea and Japan protect their home-country auto markets with currency manipulation and non-tariff trade barriers. The result is an artificially high price for U.S.-made vehicles overseas and a hidden subsidy worth thousands of dollars per vehicle on cars and trucks imported into the United States.

American auto workers have no interest in a trade war or in erecting a protectionist wall around the U.S. market. But other countries should treat U.S. products fairly, and hidden subsidies should be brought into the open—and removed. We certainly don't need new trade deals, like the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement negotiated by President George W. Bush, that allow unfair trading practices to continue.

Finally, while our new labor contracts will eliminate billions in health-care costs for U.S. car companies, the fractured U.S. health-care system is beyond repair by any one industry. Every other industrialized country has a universal health-care system that provides quality care at a much lower cost than here in the United States.

The United States spends more than $6,400 per person per year on health care, even though millions have no health insurance. In Germany, where everyone is covered, it's less than $3,300 a person; in Japan, under $2,400. There's no evidence that citizens of these advanced industrialized nations receive lower-quality care as a result of these more cost-effective expenditures.

Excess health-care costs are a burden on every U.S. employer. Comprehensive national health-care reform has never been more urgent—both for the sake of the uninsured and to reduce costs for U.S. companies.

American auto workers have made changes in our workplaces and in our industry. Now it's time for Washington to do the same, with changed policies on trade and health care that will create a level playing field for U.S. manufacturers.

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Repulsed rebate rhapsody

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section*

The massive assault on the Post Office last week triggered by the announcement that tax rebates had been uploaded and printed sent many a heart atwitter as desires and intents, some logistical and others libidinous, grew visibly possible before one's vision and affordable grasp.

And as dutiful and ardent as the rest of the grateful horde over Uncle Ben and Primo Eloy's most recent actuations, I lined up to the Chalan Kanoa temple of printed interchange, expecting the much awaited envelope more precious than the seductive scent of a lover's missive stamped at post.

But alas, the longed for unspindled but officially stained Treasury printout was no where to be found, not even under the voluminous flyers and magazines that usually fill up one's mailbox from the likes of Ace-Joeten, *Uniforms*, *Newsweek*, and Victoria's Secret.

One can wax philosophical about certain things as a self-defense measure from incredulity, particularly on matters governmental in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Many times, I adopt the old Sino poetic dictum that "truth cannot be proved, it can only be hinted at." The problem is, as my Tinian buddy is oft to say, "you expect reasonableness from our public servants." Hints do not work. One bulldozes one's way to get attention, I was told.

But the Asian genetic hints! When I found out that everyone else's 2007 tax rebate had already been sent out August of last year (having had my 2006 rebate delayed because my standard filing that was done with the assistance of the Tax Revenue office had a miscalculation that was their own doing, and for which I was never notified that I should rectify), I decided to pay the tax and revenue office a visit.

This time, there was no mistake in my 2007 filing but the database flagged my account to inform me that I was to clear with the compliance section. When I did, I was informed that my tax filings as an employer in 2000 and 2001 were late and were assessed penalties, which had since blossomed with interests larger than the fines. Quietly, I asked myself the question on why it is that when one owes the government an amount, interest is tacked in, while when the government owes citizens what is their due, there is no interest paid.

Tending to be loquacious when confronted with contradictions that I do not fully comprehend, I offered the opinion that this was an employer tax issue, so why is it connected to the tax rebate, a personal income tax matter? These are two separate and different transactions!

The lady looked at me askance as if I were an alien speaking a foreign language, so I pursued the logic of the record, adding that the tax principal was paid in full, so how could there be any penalties? If it was for late filing, should that not have been levied and collected at the time of payment? And if this was two years in a row, should I have not been notified on the second year about the arrears in my tax account of the previous year?

"Let me look closer at the record," the kind but no longer tender lady responded. She came back to inform me that they did send a notice to a P. O. Box that was on record. It so happens to be the address of my previous employ, an association that ceased in 2002. However, with a tax number, or through my name, and also through my SS number, cross-referencing would have not been a problem.

Many times, I adopt the old Sino poetic dictum that "truth cannot be proved, it can only be hinted at." The problem is, as my Tinian buddy is oft to say, "you expect reasonableness from our public servants." Hints do not work. One bulldozes one's way to get attention, I was told.

Besides, I was issued my tax rebates on the subsequent years up to 2006. Does this mean that the current assessment is a catch-up of or after 2007?

Well, it was clear to me that there is something fundamentally unfair when one should be paying for penalties on tax years that were fully paid. Noting that on the printout was space for the waiving of the fees, I asked the lady if the office would waive the penalties so that my 2007 and 2008 rebates would be released.

The lady declared that she had no authority to do that; she referred me to the office manager. The office head was busy, so I waited in line. When she was finally free, she came to the counter to entertain my request.

After carefully explaining my situation, she firmly, professionally, and a tab bit sternly (must have been the lateness of the afternoon) informed me that she had no authority to approve of the request. She did not volunteer who did. After further inquiry, I was told that only the Secretary of Finance had that power.

I had continuing paperwork to finish with PSS, having resigned my sixth grade teaching position at San Vicente School mid-January due to a degenerative condition of cervical bones that was causing severe discomfort and inability to attend fully to my classroom duties. I have a medical condition that I can legitimately retire with, which I am trying to avoid considering the additional public expense that it would incur. I stopped by the Finance office to formally request for my waiver.

Knowing of the dire budgetary constraint on the government, a penalty of less than $100 would certainly not break the bank, but I strongly felt that there is a legitimate civic concern here that needed to be addressed. After traversing two continents to seek health assistance without cost to the government's medical referral and insurance system, the expense is patently not the primary issue. Well, so much for goodwill. Or, rather, so much for expecting a reciprocity of care!

I might be in for a surprise, though. For of the irrationality of the public system in place, and the general indifference if not outright arrogance of personnel I encountered (acting as if one owes them a favor for their attention to a service that we pay taxes for), a ray of sunshine emanated from Eva and Kit at the Secretary's office who advised how I had to go about making a formal waiver request, and that when the proper authority had made a judgment, they would give me a call. What a difference a facilitative style of service makes!

I expect that call to come today! I trust no additional write-up is necessary to explain why.

Humidde Na Linala' Poble

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John S. DelRosario is the Secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

Este i linala poble megai ha choneg fuetsao guatu gi puntan kantit miserable deste tutuhon taotao guine siha na islas. Tat fina` chalan tita rikonose para ta kesoda hinagoñgta. Deste tasi, halom tano esta`i lanchun familia, estague` i riku na lugat siha `nai ta soda mantensionta. Man-animu taotaota gi este na offisiu ayo na hasan tahuñgog masusede chechu` pitbetsirias antes.

Este na palabra i "poble" ti kumeke ileghu "misirable" na linala`. Lao lamegai na biahe `nai sulon gi karera hulu gi didog yan barañka na hogsu` chinatsaga. Yangin senmakat, un` faisenmaisa hao kao para un` petsige kumonsige biahimu. Guaha na kontodu telañgmu man-manehyug lao un` batsala hao talu estake mattu hao gi chimu. Estague` na animu i fitme na finanaguen mañainata. Estague` na pisu `nai manmakreansa `sino manmalulog hit.

Pot ginen sumen pobleyu na familia na sessu hu dañae` man-achaidathu deste tiempon eskuela yan dottrina. Hu lie` kabales i pineble gi megai na familia ni manachaiguan mame. Hu lie` lokue i metgot na sensian taifinagpu na animu gi mañainata komo matriatkan yan patriatkan familia. Ni uno sumeha gi obligasion niha. Todo i tiempo ya hululu`dinaña yan fuetsan finachochu` dinaña. Man-eyag hit ginen mañainata satton na manera siha gi prinibiniyen nesesidatta.

Hu lie` gi mañainahu yayas na mata gi uttimon haane `sino semana. Hu lie` chathinasson niha `nai ni mona ni tatte. Kontodo lechen niyog in` rikonose para i neni na chetlon mame. In` atotga manmachat`atan `nai manmangagao ham un` latan leche gi hihot na familia. Achogha` guaha, mas chadeg i para bai`n fan masañgane na "taya". Guaha `nai man-maesalague ham para bai`n sañgane mañainan mame para u fan man-apase dibi. Sumen puti este na finaposhu ya esta hana` tutuhu` lagohu i malaet na sentimentu ni manhuyoñg ginen pachot parientes.

Hu ñañgon si nanahu hafa manma-esalaguen mame. Tumekon i amko ya milalag (kulan sadog) lagoña gi yayas yan namase` na mataña. Hu pega kanaihu gi apagaña, sige hu lasa para muñga na u inaminasa didog pot estao mame yan malaet na kuentos pot dibin niha. Estague un` sumen triste na haane gi linalahu pot aminasun pineblen mañainahu. Esta pago na ora tutuhu lagohu `an hu hasso ayo na pinadesen nanahu.

Tai malefaghu ni matan nanahu `nai ha pañot ayo na pidasun tolañg gi lagu` hinimidde. Kuatdiba korasoña guihe na ora. Pot este na tatnai matto sinetsothu pot estao niha sa` ginen papan nihayu `nai dumañkulu. Mamattit siha haane yan pueñge para bai` mana` fan dañkulo. Hu tatiye pasun niha maseha gai suetteyu mas pot ginen siha. Ti bai` repite para u fan ma-esalague famaguonhu taimanu finaposhu, antes.

Ginen pinasensian niha gi hilu uttimu siniñgon poble `nai umeyagyu chechu karidat para i prohimuhu. Maseha pisun un` poblen guma`yu` `nai malulug yan mapogsai, mit grasias na premiu siha hu resibe ginen hilu` pot minesñgon gi rimulinon pagoyon pineble. Gi todo `nai basnagyu pot tinahoñg alimientu gi tataotaohu, gaige un` kanai gi sanmena ni humalayu hulu kada ti huna` lañgag i hu petsisige. Ha sedeyu mamokat gi hilu yanu na plaset. Ya maseha makat linala` poble, motmut minagof, kinententu yan pas gi korason mame para todos espesiatmente para i mansinatusan na mañainahu. Si Yuus Maase`!

Letters to the Editor

Give back RP passport, no questions asked

I am appealing to whoever broke into my apartment at Upper Navy Hill on June 19, 2009, around 6pm to 8pm who took away some small valuable items including a black travel wallet containing my Philippine Passport No. ZZ145457.

Maybe you are in dire need of cash for your family needs, so there is no use for you to keep my passport. Please do not throw away or destroy it.

Also, to anybody who may find it, please contact me at 234-0609 or 285-1312 to return it. Or you may drop it G/F JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan or to Philippine Consulate Office at the Marianas Business Center (Old Nauru Bldg.) in Susupe.

C. L. Matanguihan
Navy Hill

Apology to five Tinian parents

After learning of the situation at Tinian High School it appears I owe five of the parents whose children's diplomas were in jeopardy an apology. I had your students in my class as well. When they failed in November due to not handing in assignments and not passing tests I expected you to come for a conference to discuss how we could help them meet the requirements of my class.

When you did not do so, I criticized you publicly for parental apathy. And when I scheduled student support meetings with Ms. Hofschneider and you did not attend I criticized you again.

And finally in January when they failed my class, again I criticized you. You see, I thought that Tinian parents supported Ms. Hofschneider's goal to make Tinian High School one of high academic standards that were strictly enforced so our graduates could migrate to the mainland and compete on a level playing field with the graduates of the blue ribbon schools that feed Harvard, Yale, Columbia, West Point, Duke, Annapolis, the Coast Guard Academy, the Air Force Academy, Stanford, USCm and other universities of high repute rather than having to go to community colleges.

It now appears that what Tinian parents desire is for their children to receive a diploma for a four-year attendance only. The children did meet that requirement. So I apologize for my criticisms.

Renee Simao
Tinian

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°

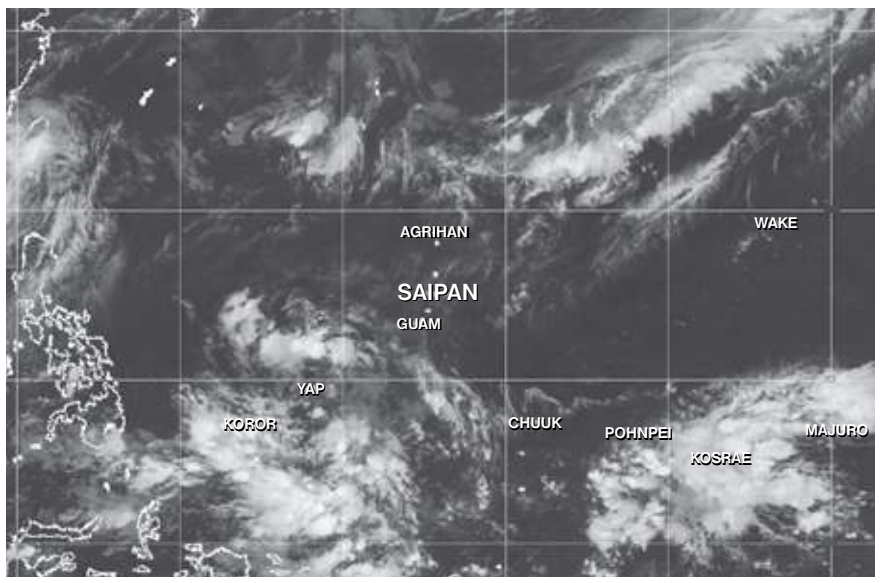
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲88	▼79
Palau	Showers	▲85	▼78
Yap	Showers	▲85	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼76
Pohnpei	Thundershowers	▲88	▼81
Kosrae	Showers	▲88	▼76
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲52	▼39
Beijing	Sunny	▲95	▼70
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲91	▼81
Honolulu	Showers	▲83	▼75
London	Partly Sunny	▲72	▼52
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲79	▼62
Manila	Cloudy	▲90	▼79
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲63	▼51
Miami	Thundershowers	▲92	▼77
New York	Showers	▲74	▼61
Osaka	Showers	▲83	▼73
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲69	▼48
Pusan	Showers	▲87	▼68
Rome	Mostly Cloudy	▲76	▼58
Salem	Partly Sunny	▲70	▼47
San Francisco	Partly Sunny	▲73	▼53
Seoul	Partly Sunny	▲82	▼63
Tokyo	Showers	▲84	▼72
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲82	▼66

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front north of the discussion area is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 150 miles of a line from 24N137E to 22N150E northeastward beyond 25N160E. A surface trough extends from 9N130E to a circulation near Yap at 8N138E then southeastward to end near 1N145E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from southwest of Guam across Yap and Palau are mainly in three areas. One area is within 75 miles of a line from 14N133E to 12N138E. The second area is between the equator and 9N from 130E to 145E. The third area is within 100 miles of a line from 10N145E to 6N149E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in a large area from just south of Pohnpei across Kosrae, Kwajalein and Majuro. The area is bounded by a line from 5N155E to 11N172E to 8N173E to 6N168E to 1N170E to EQ155E back to 5N155E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
12:44 PM Today	Low Tide:	1.4 Feet
5:39 AM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
1:19 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
8:38 PM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:44 AM	6:20 PM
Tuesday	5:50 AM	7:23 PM
Wednesday	6:59 AM	8:22 PM
Thursday	8:05 AM	9:14 PM
Friday	9:08 AM	8:01 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 9, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7

SAIPAN-GUAM

CO9317	4:30am	5:20am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

CO9598	2:20am	2:50am	5, 6
CO9312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-PALAU (ROR)

CO893	5:50pm	6:50pm	3, 5
CO953	6:50pm	7:50pm	1, 7
CO953	7:35pm	10:05pm	2, 4, 6

PALAU (ROR)-MANILA

CO893	7:35pm	9:10pm	3, 5

GUAM-MANILA

CO893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via ROR
CO933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR111	6:00am	7:45am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW99	6:00am	8:40am	Daily
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	Daily via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25am	Daily

GUAM-NARITA (NRT)

CO961	6:35am	9:10am	Daily
NW83	8:00am	1:55pm	Daily via KIX
CO6	12:00pm	2:45pm	Daily
NW73	4:05pm	7:00pm	Daily
CO963	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1
OZ119	4:20am	7:00am	4,6

GUAM-OSAKA (KIX)

NW83	8:00am	10:45am	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW78	9:00am	11:40am	Daily

GUAM-NAGOYA (NGO)

CO971	7:45am	10:30am	Daily
NW23	4:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
CO975	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	excl 1
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1 via KIX
OZ119	4:20am	11:20am	4, 6 via KIX

SEOUL (ICN)-HONG KONG

OZ721	9:05am	11:45am	Daily
OZ723	7:45pm	10:30pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-MANILA

OZ701	8:35am	11:25am	Daily
OZ703	7:50pm	10:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

CO9598	3:25am	4:00am	5, 6
CO9312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

CO9316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
CO9598	2:20am	4:00am	5, 6 via ROP
CO9596	7:00am	5:00am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily x6
CO9312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

CO9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

PALAU (ROR)-GUAM

CO954	1:10am	5:30am	3, 5, 7
CO954	1:45am	4:40am	1, 2
CO892	2:35am	5:30am	4, 6

MANILA-PALAU (ROR)

CO892	10:10pm	1:50am+1	3, 5

MANILA-GUAM

CO892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3, 5 via ROR
CO934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR110	10:00pm	4:00am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:30pm	1:40am+1	Daily via NGO
NW100	7:50pm	12:30am+1	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-GUAM

NW74	10:00am	2:50pm	Daily
CO962	10:30am	3:00pm	Daily
CO7	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
NW84	6:20pm	1:40am+1	Daily
CO964	8:25pm	1:00am+1	Daily
NW82	8:30pm	1:05am+1	4
NW82	8:30pm	1:20am+1	X 4

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6

OSAKA (KIX)-GUAM

NW84	9:05pm	1:40am+1	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW77	9:10pm	1:40am	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-GUAM

NW24	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
CO970	11:30am	4:30pm	Daily
CO972	8:25pm	12:55am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	excl 7

HONG KONG-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ724	12:30am	5:05am	Daily
OZ722	1:15pm	5:45pm	Daily

MANILA-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ702	12:45pm	5:45pm	Daily
OZ704	11:50pm	4:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Children's campaigns brighten NMI summer visits

Summer looks even brighter in the Northern Mariana Islands as visiting children and their families receive a special welcome via the on-island summer campaigns of Marianas Visitors Authority.

MVA and its members are making summer visits for families more memorable with special treats through the Happy Children in Paradise Campaign and a special Russian market children's campaign.

From July 1 to Sept. 30, 2009, each of the anticipated 13,000 arriving children under the age of 11 will receive a coupon redeemable for a free, limited edition Saipan-da Backpack which includes a 10th year emblem to indicate the anniversary of the campaign. Coupons will be redeemable at the DFS Galleria's Saipan-da Corner during regular business hours, where a life-size Saipan-da mascot will also greet the children and be available for photo opportunities from 5pm to 8pm daily. On Tinian or Rota, coupons will be redeemable at the MVA offices.

Tenorio

This year marks the tenth anniversary of Happy Children in Paradise Campaign, which is co-sponsored by the Japan Saipan Travel Association and the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands.

"Happy Children in Paradise has been one of our most successful on-island campaigns through the years," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "Many children—and even some adults—love the backpacks, and they leave with a tangible and useful reminder of their visit to the Northern Marianas."

As a special incentive for the Russian market, product coupons from various island businesses are available at participating local hotels and travel agencies all summer. Visiting children will be able to receive free toys, ice-cream, kids' meals, and other items from participating MVA members.

"Russian visitors stay an average of 14 days and often explore the islands independently," said Tenorio. "This campaign is one way to help local businesses bring them in the door, while also making the visit more enjoyable for children and their families."

The Russian market summer children's campaign began on the first of June and will continue until Sept. 1. ***(PR)***

Made in the Marianas Festival starts Wednesday

The Made in the Marianas Festival is just two days away. The $10 event will take place on Wednesday, June 24, at the NMI Museum. Attendees will be able to enjoy a free glass of soda, wine, or beer as they peruse locally available products, listen to local music, and devour food unique to the Marianas.

A portion of the proceeds from the Made in the Marianas event will be donated to the museum. It normally costs one dollar for residents and two dollars for visitors to witness local history and culture at the only permanent public museum of its kind in the entire Marianas, including Guam.

The museum maintains a number of exhibits, including the artifacts from a Spanish Galleon, the *Nuestra de la Concepcion*, nearly 100 original drawings of the Marianas from an 1814 French exploration that were saved when the ship crashed and sunk off of Brazil on its return to France, and significant pre-contact, German-period and Japanese-period collections.

"The NMI Museum plays an important role in the community where the preservation of the materials of the collective history of the Marianas is concerned. Outside of simple serving as a repository for these materials, the exhibits serve to educate residents and visitors alike, and are utilized by students and scholars Marianas-wide and internationally," said NMI Museum executive director Robert Hunter,.

The museum is currently operating on the generosity of the community. "Public donations have been extremely helpful in providing some of the basic needs of the museum," said Hunter.

Tickets to the Made in the Marianas Festival are available at the NMI Museum of History and Culture and with OBP members. For additional information, email obpcnmi@gmail.com or contact Robert Hunter at the NMI Museum at 664-2160/4. ***(PR)***

Descendants of Jose Cabrera Manibusan to host a reunion

The descendants of Jose Cabrera Manibusan are organizing a reunion slated for July 18, 2009 and are inviting other family members to participate in the planning of the festivities.

Jose Cabrera Manibusan was married to Antonia Pangelinan and had had 10 children: Nicolasa Manibusan, Heronimo Manibusan, Rufina Manibusan, Sylvia Manibusan, Vicente Manibusan, Josepha Manibusan, Rita Manibusan, Victoria Manibusan, Abraham Manibusan, and Luis Manibusan.

Jose then married Ana Villagomez Benavente and had the following children: Francisco Manibusan, Maria Manibusan, Dolores Manibusan, Veronica Manibusan, Lydia Manibusan, and Frances Manibusan.

A list of all children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren can be accessed by visiting www.JoseCManibusan.myheritage.com.

The reunion will be held at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion at Kilili Beach from 9am to 3pm. Family members are encouraged to sign up to bring a dish they can share with others during the reunion.

Those who wish to order a Manibusan Reunion shirt must contact Lorena at 285-5364 or email lomaliz@hotmail.com as soon as possible, as orders will be submitted soon to the printer.

The next reunion planning meeting will be held on June 23, 2009 at the NMC Snack Bar at 5:30pm.

A reunion to include all the siblings of Jose Cabrera Manibusan and their descendants is planned for a later date. ***(PR)***

Red flag up on 8 sites on Saipan

The Division of Environmental Quality has raised the red flag on eight sites on Saipan and advises the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from Tanapag Meeting Hall, DPW Channel Bridge, American Memorial Park, Hafa adai Hotel, Hafa adai Drainage, Garapan Fishing Base, Bird Island and Old Man by the Sea on Saipan contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria-enterococci-that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards.

These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. However, studies have shown that storm water runoff in tropical environments may also contain these bacteria from the natural environment, which may not be directly associated with public health concerns.

Rota beaches, meanwhile, were assigned a green flag.

DEQ analyzes samples of marine recreational and storm drainage water from 50 locations on Saipan, 10 on Tinian, 12 on Rota, and a total of 11 samples from the shore surrounding Managaha.

Marine Water Quality Reports are also provided at www.deq.gov.mp and at www.cnmicoralreef.net. The agency welcomes all inquiries as to the quality of the beach water. The public is encouraged to contact DEQ at 664-8500 with any questions concerning this matter. ***(PR)***

A VOTE IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE

In this life, we take too many things for granted. Take for instance the right to vote. Throughout history, torture and even death have been used to prevent people from casting their ballots in an election.

These instances, no matter how many, have failed to silence the voices of humanity desiring to participate in the running of their communities and governments. There are people still living in our islands who can recall a time when the election of government leaders was only an abstract concept in their minds and a yearning in their hearts. Imagine what these elders would say if they knew you were going to throw your vote away.

On June 27, 2009 please vote for
HEINZ SABLAN HOFSCHNEIDER and
ARNOLD INDALECIO PALACIOS
in the Republican Primary Election.

Voting polls open from 7:00 am - 6:00 pm at all regular polling stations designated by the Commonwealth Election Commission.

- Voting is an exercise of civic responsibility.
- Voting is a serious thing.
- Be respectful of your vote.
- Be wise on who you vote for.
- Don't throw your vote away.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Heinz S. Hofschneider & Arnold I. Palacios
www.heinzarnold2009.com

Business

Reports: Apple CEO Steve Jobs had liver transplant

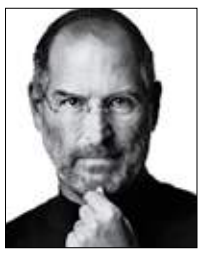
NEW YORK (AP)—Apple Inc. co-founder and CEO Steve Jobs, whose recovery from pancreatic cancer appeared less certain when he had to take medical leave in January, received a liver transplant two months ago but is recovering well, *The Wall Street Journal* reported Saturday.

The newspaper didn't reveal a source for the report, which comes as Jobs, 54, is expected back in his day-to-day duties at the company shortly. CNBC said later that it had confirmed the Journal's account, which said Jobs had the transplant performed in Tennessee.

Apple spokesman Steve Dowling told The Associated Press he had no comment. Dowling reiterated what has become Apple's standard line about the CEO's health, that "Steve continues to look forward to returning to Apple at the end of June and there is nothing further to say."

The *Journal* reported that at least some Apple directors were aware of the surgery.

Few CEOs are considered as instrumental to their companies as Jobs has been to Apple since he returned in 1997 after a 12-year hiatus. With Jobs serving as head showman and demanding elegance in product design, Apple has expanded from a niche computer maker to become the dominant producer of portable music players and a huge player in the cell phone business. News and rumors about his health send Apple stock soaring or plunging.


Jobs

Jobs disclosed in August 2004 that he had been diagnosed with—and cured of—a rare form of pancreatic cancer called an islet cell neuroendocrine tumor.

According to the National Institutes of Health, treatment for that form of pancreatic cancer can include the removal of a portion of the liver if the cancer spreads. The cancer is curable if the tumors are removed before they spread to other organs.

It's likely that Jobs had part or all of his pancreas removed to "cure" his cancer in 2004, said Dr. Lewis Teperman, vice chair of surgery and director of transplantation at NYU Langone Medical Center in New York City.

Patients who have part or all of their pancreas removed usually get diabetes, which is treated with medication. Patients often lose weight as a result as well.

Redbox's machines take on Netflix's red envelopes

BELLEVUE, Wash. (AP)—With more subscribers than ever flocking to its DVD-by-mail service, Netflix Inc. is one of the few companies to prosper during the worst U.S. recession in 70 years. Yet Netflix CEO Reed Hastings still has something to worry about: an even cheaper DVD rental service run by one of his former lieutenants.

Once just an incongruous experiment amid the burgers and fries at McDonald's restaurants, Redbox has emerged as the largest operator of DVD-rental kiosks, with more than 15,400 vending machines set up to dispense $1-per-day discs in supermarkets and discount stores.

With Redbox opening an average of one kiosk per hour to lure budget-conscious consumers, Hastings is concerned that this upstart might upstage Netflix, whose cheapest mail-order plan costs $5 for two movie rentals in a month.

AP

In this photo made Tuesday, June 9, 2009, Aisha Smith chooses a DVD at a Redbox rental unit in a north Seattle grocery store.

"By the end of the year, kiosks will likely be our No. 1 competitor," Hastings said in a recent conference call. "There are already more kiosks in America than video stores."

The fight for DVD-rental loyalties figures to intensify as Netflix, Redbox, Blockbuster Inc. and others vie for the attention of frugal consumers looking for inexpensive home entertainment. According to research from PricewaterhouseCoopers, Americans last year spent less money buying DVDs and more on rentals from stores, kiosks and online services like Netflix. The trend is expected to continue this year.

Redbox began in 2002 as a way for McDonald's Corp. to expand beyond the burger business. A strategy group inside the company tested a few "automated retail" ideas, as it called them.

"Vending sounded so last-century," said Gregg Kaplan, who led Redbox from inception until April, when he became chief operating officer of its parent company, Coinstar Inc.

Baucus, White House in deal with drug industry

WASHINGTON (AP)—The pharmaceutical industry agreed Saturday to spend $80 billion over the next decade improving drug benefits for seniors on Medicare and defraying the cost of President Barack Obama's health care legislation, capping secretive negotiations involving key lawmakers and the White House.

"This new coverage means affordable prices on prescription drugs when Medicare benefits don't cover the cost of prescriptions," Sen. Max Baucus, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said in a statement announcing the accord.

The deal marked a major triumph for Baucus as well as the administration. Obama praised the deal.

"The agreement by pharmaceutical companies to contribute to the health reform effort comes on the heels of the landmark pledge many health industry leaders made to me last month, when they offered to do their part to reduce health spending $2 trillion over the next decade," Obama said. "We are at a turning point in America's journey toward health care reform."

Baucus, a Montana Democrat, has been negotiating with numerous industry groups for weeks as he tries to draft legislation that meets Obama's goal of vastly expanding health coverage, has bipartisan support and does not add to the deficit.

MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

We would like to extend our deepest and most sincere appreciation to the many volunteers, donors and supporters who contributed to the San Diego Softball Fundraiser Luncheon held on June 5, 2009 at the Aqua Resort Hotel. Your diligent effort, hard work, and generous contributions have not gone unnoticed. Through the funds raised at this event and your commitment to our cause, our Team has achieved a goal beyond expectation. For that, we gratefully and humbly thank you.

We especially would like to acknowledge those volunteers and donors who made this event possible.

Tee Abrahams
Sachiko Adachi
Peter Aldan
Manny Alvarez
Dave Apatang Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. JJ Atalig
Blas Jonathan (BJ) Attao
Dave and Nen Attao
Terry Attao
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Attao
Mr. & Mrs. Felix Ayuyu
Aqua Resort Saipan
Mr. & Mrs. John L. Babauta
Juan N. Babauta
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Babauta
Abby Cabrera
Bridget Camacho
Ed Mendiola/Bert Camacho
Joe N. Camacho
Lillian Camacho
Neda Camacho
Nobert Camacho
Pao Camacho
Julie Castro
LJ Castro
Reno Celis
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Dela Cruz
Joan Dubrall
Bobby Feger
Alice Fleming
Donna Flores
John Gonzalez
Ed M. Guerrero
Galvin Guerrero
Jocelyn Guerrero
Jolena Guerrero
Juan Jr. Guerrero
Juan Pan Guerrero
Marissa Guerrero
Patrick C. Guerrero
Pedro (Peds) Guerrero
Tracy Guerrero
Amanda Hayes
Anna Hayes
Mr. & Mrs. Larry/Tilde Hocog
Bernard Hofschneider
Heinz Hofschneider
Yi Su Jeong
Father Ryan Jimemez
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Dino Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Luis Kapileo
Rick Kautz
Loy Kim
Luis Lebra
John Lizama (FHB)
Jenny Mafnas
Edward Manglona
Ross H.S. Manglona
Vernon Manglona
Tanya Mesa
Margaret "Abick" Muna
NMC Bookstore
Arnold Palacios
Alisa T. Pangelinan
Lillian M. Pangelinan
Rita and Guest
Kimo Rosario
Gene Sablan
Joe D. Sablan
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Sablan
Piding C. Sablan
Bennett Seman
Mr. & Mrs. Gogie Seman
Patrick Seman
Pam Seman
Kyung Ran Seo
Carlos Shoda
Cathy Sheu
Tom Son
Aste T.
Becky Tenorio
Shine Tenorio
Jesse Torres
Noriko/Yuko Togawa
Lupe Torres
Mako Torres
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Tudela
Terry Tudela
Joe Villagomez
Paul Guerrero/ Mae Villagomez
Sally Villanueva
Lin Wang
Mr. & Mrs. Chong Won
Doll Yamagishi
Kim Yang
Paz Youniz
Kai Kai and Cheech

Also, to those who purchased tickets, sold tickets, donated and supported anonymously-Thank you.

Sincerely,
Team San Diego

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Billionaire Stanford jailed in alleged $7B fraud

WASHINGTON (AP)—Brash Texas billionaire R. Allen Stanford has been jailed on charges his international banking empire was really just a Ponzi scheme built on lies, bluster and bribery. The Justice Department announced Friday charges against Stanford and six others who allegedly helped the tycoon run a $7 billion swindle. At a court hearing in Richmond, Va., a federal judge agreed with prosecutors that Stanford poses a flight risk and ordered him to remain in custody until a future detention hearing in Houston. Among those charged were executives of Stanford Financial Group and a former Antiguan bank regulator who prosecutors say should have caught the fraud but instead took bribes to let the scheme continue.

Nortel to sell itself off in pieces

TORONTO (AP)—Nortel Networks, once a technology giant, has decided to sell itself off in pieces rather than attempt to emerge from bankruptcy as a restructured company. Nokia Siemens Networks agreed to buy some wireless operations of Canada's Nortel Networks Corp. in a $650 million deal as the more than century-old Nortel announced it is looking for buyers for the rest of its assets. The Finnish-German joint venture said Saturday it had agreed to buy the CDMA and LTE wireless technology assets of Nortel, a former telecommunications equipment powerhouse that sought bankruptcy protection in January and now plans to liquidate its business.

Contact solution maker failed to report problems

WASHINGTON (AP)—Complaints about a contact lens solution linked to a 2007 outbreak of eye infections that blinded several people went unreported by the manufacturer for more than a year, government documents show. The documents show Advanced Medical Optics received complaints about the solution more than a year before it was recalled, and failed to promptly report nine complaints as required by law. The company pulled its Complete MoisturePlus off the market in May 2007 after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention linked the fluid to dozens of cases of a serious infection called Acanthamoeba keratitis.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Second Floor, Afetna Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan MP 96950

NOTICE AS TO BOND CLAIMS

Pre-2006 CASES

June 22, 2009, first notice
June 29, 2009, second notice

Each of the cases listed below has been adjudicated or dismissed by the Administrative Hearing Office. In each case, a final action has been taken by the Administrative Hearing Office. All claims, including all claims for money damages, and all claims for eligibility for transfer, have been adjudicated or dismissed, and final notices have been published. Awards in some of these cases may be covered by labor bonds.

COMPLAINANTS WHOSE ADMINISTRATIVE AWARDS HAVE NOT BEEN PAID:
Any complainant who was awarded money damages in a case listed below and has not been paid should come to the Complaint Intake Section, Department of Labor, and fill out a declaration affirming that payment has not been made. Please bring a copy of the administrative order in your case and your entry permit card. A complainant who has not been paid has until July 20, 2009 to report to the Complaint Intake Section.

Alternatively, any complainant who has already filed a declaration under oath with the federal ombudsman's office may either supply a copy of that declaration or authorize the ombudsman's office to supply a copy together with a copy of the administrative award to the Complaint Intake Section.

Name	Case Number	Date of Award	Respondent
Abaygar Zenaida	04-0025 CA CAC#05-023-03	4/19/05 8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Alam Md. Ashraful	CA#95-0008	3/7/96	Ayuyu, Augustine R. dba CNMI Security Service and Antonio Benavente dba Benavente Agency
Alam Md. Monzurul	CA#97-0080	7/27/98	Lozano, Nelia D. dba Seiko Employment Service
Alam S.M. Intakhab	A.C.#95-0167	3/4/96	Gonzales, Dina T. dba RJ Ent./Roding Ent.,
Alfaro Lorna E.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Aliman Doloras	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Al-Mahmud Abdullah	AC#98-005	9/16/98	Ubongen, Segundino R.dba Philam Enterprises, USA
Andebor Renaluz	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Angeles Angelito M.	AC#98-020 LC#98-104	11/6/98	M-S-T Pacific Corporation dba Sakura Sushi Bar
Arachchilage Saliya Rajapakshe	AC#98-015 LC#98-061	5/7/98	Ulanday, Ernie and Anthony M. Camacho dba GRL Investments
Arnaldo Aurora A.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Babila Punay D.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Barman Balai Chanra	CA#00-0029	3/5/01	Commonwealth Security Services, Inc
Baruela Enrique T.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Baruela Rafaela N.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Batallones Shirley	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Bautista Jose Mari A.	AC#98-020 LC#98-104	11/6/98	M-S-T Pacific Corporation dba Sakura Sushi Bar
Bendana Marivic	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Cadauan Regina	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Carcueva Caballas Isabelita	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Carino Adona D.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Castillo Gloria G.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Castro Alicia G.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Chakraborty Haridas	CA#00-0029	8/11/00	Duenas, George C. dba Commonwealth Security Services and Duenas Security Services
Chankoon Chalao	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Chen Hui Zhu	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Clemente Rosario J.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
CO Jr. Ireneo R.	CA#95-00036	1/15/96	Duenas, George C., d/b/a Commonwealth Security Services, Inc.
Cruz Danilo	CA#94-0004	2/1/94	Duenas, George C., d/b/a/ Commonwealth Security Services, Inc.
Dao Wiboonsin	04-0025 CA	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
De Chavez Florencia B.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
De Mesa Percival	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Debnath Krishna Gopal	AC#98-016, LC#97-530	5/8/98	Mareham, Antonio P. dba AMCO Security Agency
Decena Josefa B.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Del Mundo Evelyn	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Dela Cruz Dionesia	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Dioneda Teresita D.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Domaoal Jocelyn Dlc.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Escobar Emma S.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Escolona Marites G.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Espinosa Nenita Andea	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Fontanilla Benito	96-0048 CV	10/25/96	Reyes, Antonio Aldan, dba Business Protection Services
Gabatino Maryann G.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Gatamitan Wilfredo	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Gemao Gilbert	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Geronimo Maricel D.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Guerrero Bang-on	04-0025 CA	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Gunarathna Kanchana S.	AC#98-041	9/11/98	Hwang, Byung Kil and Magdalena S. Hwang dba Kyoto Manpower Services,
Guzman Andres Teel	BK#95-00016		Famco Security Services
Guzman Elvira Nicolos	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Habibur	CA#04-0025 CAC#05-023-03	4/19/05 8/23/05	Sako Corporation Sako Corporation
Heneral Anita D.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Hossain Md. Alamgir	CA#04-0025	6/12/05	Sako Corporation
Hossain Mutalib	AC#95-0167	3/4/96	Gonzales, Dina T. dba RJ Ent./Roding Ent.,
Islam Md. Hafizul	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Islam Md. Sahedul	AC#98-079	5/29/96	Reyes, Antonio dba BPS
Islam Md. Saiful	AC#95-0167	3/4/96	Gonzales, Dina T. dba RJ Ent./Roding Ent.,
Islam MD Nurul Bhuiyan	AC#98-079	10/28/98	Reyes, Antonio A.dba Business Protection Service
Jankun Em-Ron	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Javier Elmer Comandnte	CAC#01-024	1/5/03	Kay, David and Judy dba Figueroa's Bar and Grill
Kabir Md. Iqbal	CA#95-0008	3/7/96	Ayuyu, Augustine R.dba CNMI Security Service and Antonio Benavente dba Benavente Agency
Kashem Abul	AC#98-016, LC#97-530	5/8/98	Mareham, Antonio P. dba AMCO Security Agency
Khairul Hasan Bhuiyan	CA#04-0025	6/12/05	Sako Corporation
Khankaew Baothiang	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation

Name	Case Number	Date of Award	Respondent
Kumar Pradip	AC#98-034 CAC#97-109-08	11/1/99	Mayon Enterprises Bicol Express
Lamphung Wangkhooklang	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Legaspi Marichu V.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Lizano J. Yecla	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Lu Hong Mei	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Lucina Simeon V.	AC#98-016, LC#97-530	11/13/98	Aguon, Elena and Joseph Aguon dba E&J Enterprises
Maderista Marilyn C.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Manase Jesusa V.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Miah Dulal	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Mobarak	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Mohamed Jemal Mohamed	AC#98-041	9/11/98	Hwang, Byung Kil and Magdalena S. Hwang dba Kyoto Manpower Services,
Mohammed Abu Younus	AC#98-016, LC#97-530	5/8/98	Mareham, Antonio P. dba AMCO Security Agency
Moral Rolando N.	CA#95-0036	1/15/96	Duenas, George C., d/b/a/ Commonwealth Security Services, Inc.
Mozid	AC#98-034 CAC#97-109-08	11/1/99	Mayon Enterprises Bicol Express
Nasawang Pattaya	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Navarra Marylou I.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Nimes Edgardo D.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Pacayo Alice	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Pangalinan II Federico	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Panieza Emilia Agana	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Parahan Carlito I.	CAC#00-067-03	5/14/03	Buenaventura, Amelia, d/b/a Fortune International, Inc.
Patricio Nenita F.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Paul Bhola Nath	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Peralta Elsie O.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Phonsan Sudarat	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Phrommuang Arisa	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Prakobbun Sasiphong	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Quevedo Alicia R.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Ragasa Rose Marie	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Ramos Luis	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Ramos Rosalinda T.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Raquepo † Roberto	CAC#02-098-12	6/12/07	Island Security Services Inc
Rashid Md. Mamun-Ur	AC#98-034 CAC#97-109-08	11/1/99	Mayon Enterprises Bicol Express
Rebamba Johnny	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Reginio Bernadeth	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Reginio Evelyn	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Reyes Lamberto	CAC#02-098-12		Island Security Services Inc
Ricardo Dulay B.	CA#01-0039 CA#95-0036	6/10/02 1/15/96	Marquez, Nenita Valdez d/b/a N.V.M. Enterprises Duenas, George C. d/b/a/ Commonwealth Security Services, Inc.
Robiego Alfredo	CA#94-0004	2/1/94	Duenas, George C. d/b/a/ Commonwealth Security Services, Inc.
Rubis Imelda	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Ruiz Ramil F.	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Safil	AC#98-082	11/13/98	Aguon, Elena Aguon and Joseph Aguon dba E&J Enterprises
Sagun Imelda	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
San Gabrial Corazon	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Sapitula Arturo Zandueta	CA#94-0004	2/1/94	Duenas, George C. d/b/a/ Commonwealth Security Services, Inc.
Sarker Md. Humayan Kabir	AC#95-0167	3/4/96	Gonzales, Dina T. dba RJ Ent./Roding Ent.,
Semana Ednalyn L.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Simpilo Evelyn	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Sunisa Pitaprom	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Taesanthiah Duongta K.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Talarde Estelita A.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Thapthim Kanchanamongkhon	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Tong Ai Juan	CAC#05-023-03	8/23/05	Sako Corporation
Torio Conrado M.	CAC#01-093-06	5/14/03	Sablan Construction Co., Ltd.
Uddin Md. Aftab	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Uddin Nasir	AC#98-016, LC#97-530	5/8/98	Mareham, Antonio P. dba AMCO Security Agency
Uggahakumbure Pitiyegedara S.	AC#98-041	9/11/98	Hwang, Byung Kil and Magdalena S. Hwang dba Kyoto Manpower Services,
Ugma Fely C.	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Ullah Md. Habib	AC#95-0167	3/4/96	Gonzales, Dina T. dba RJ Ent./Roding Ent.,
Wanchanok Numnoi	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Wangkhooklang Lumpung	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Wiboonsin Pao	CA#04-0025	4/19/05	Sako Corporation
Young Ohi Hai	CAC#00-135-08	5/12/01	Eurotex (Saipan), Inc.
Zamal	AC#98-034		VIP Corporation
Zhu Pei Lan	CAC#04-019-03, CAC#03-006-02	5/21/07	Net Corporation

Nation

Woman killed fleeing Ill. train derailment, blast

ROCKFORD, Ill. (AP)—Railroad tank cars holding thousands of gallons of highly flammable ethanol derailed and exploded in flames, killing a 41-year-old woman as she tried to run to safety from a car stopped at a crossing.

Three other people from the same car escaped with severe burns. Hundreds of people were evacuated from homes near the explosion.

Eighteen tank cars, all filled with ethanol, or ethyl alcohol, derailed Friday on the edge of Rockford, about 80 miles northwest of Chicago.

The wreckage burned through the night, but the fire was extinguished by Saturday evening, leaving a blackened collection of rail cars piled on top of one another. Crews are expected to use cranes to remove the cars from the tracks for inspection later Saturday.

National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Robert Sumwalt said investigators wouldn't speculate about what may have caused the derailment. A thorough investigation could take a year, he said.

Investigators will look into the train crew's performance, the train's mechanical components, signals, the integrity of the cars containing ethanol and the emergency response, Sumwalt said.

Reports that the derailment was caused by a washout of the tracks following heavy rain were "not a certainty and this remains under investigation," said Canadian National Railway Company spokesman Patrick Waldron.

The woman who was killed—Zoila Tellez, 41, of Rockford—had escaped from the stopped automobile, but she managed to get only 20 feet away before she fell and died, said Winnebago County Coroner Sue Fiduccia. Tellez' body was found face down on the ground.

Kids to meet gay dad's partner on Father's Day

ATLANTA (AP)—Eric Mongerson's kids couldn't meet his partner of two years, much less join the couple for ice cream. His friends couldn't cheer on the children at concerts or Little League games.

The divorced dad spent thousands of dollars fighting an unusual ban imposed by a county judge in 2007 that kept the three minors from having any contact with his gay friends or partners.

He felt unfairly scrutinized every moment he spent with the kids, though he never was looking to make a statement. He just wanted to spend a day with his kids and his partner, Jose Sanchez—together.

This Father's Day, he finally will.

"It's a fairy tale ending," he told The Associated Press after the Georgia Supreme Court overturned the ban.

The ban stemmed from the bitter divorce between Mongerson and his ex-wife, Sandy, who were married for almost 20 years and had four children. Mongerson said the marriage ended when his wife discovered he was gay in November 2005, but he would not elaborate.

The dispute played out the next few years in court, as Sandy's attorney claimed he had several affairs with other men and subjected the kids to an array of "wholly inappropriate conduct" during a trip to Arkansas.

Ammonia leak at NC plant kills 1, injures 3

LUMBER BRIDGE, N.C. (AP)—An ammonia leak Saturday at a poultry processing plant in North Carolina killed one worker and injured at least three others, authorities said.

Robeson County Sheriff Kenneth Sealey said the leak occurred about 10 a.m. Saturday at the Mountaire Farms plant in Robeson County in southern-central North Carolina, about 16 miles south of Fayetteville.

Sealey identified the worker who died as Clifton Swain of Fayetteville at a mid-afternoon briefing. Sealey did not have additional details about Swain. It was not immediately clear how he died or what caused the leak.

County Emergency Management Director Charles Britt told *The Fayetteville Observer* that the leak has been contained.

Sealey said three injured workers, who were not identified, were taken to hospitals.

However, Southeastern Regional Medical Center and Cape Fear Valley Medical Center each said they treated two men injured at the plant.

ACROSS THE NATION

Abortion opponents return to Kan. clinic

WICHITA, Kan. (AP)—It took waiting eight hours, but abortion opponents succeeded in holding a memorial service Saturday at the closed clinic of slain abortion provider George Tiller. As dusk fell on this Kansas city, a small group of 10 abortion foes showed up at the clinic to lay hundreds of flowers and hold a brief prayer service to memorialize the more than 60,000 abortions performed here. A group of counter-protesters that had thwarted the event for most of the day were long gone. "It was very peaceful," said Cheryl Sullenger, senior policy adviser for Operation Rescue. "It was exactly what we wanted."

NM ranchers worry that sick cows could cross to US

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—Longtime New Mexico cattle rancher Judy Keeler is keenly aware of how tough it is to raise livestock in the dusty desert near the U.S.-Mexico border. Drought, intense heat, security and illegal immigrants who cut down ranchers fences and drink water meant for livestock are constant concerns. But Keeler and fellow ranchers now have another worry. The border fence, installed by the Department of Homeland Security to keep cars and people from crossing into the United States illegally, isn't so good at blocking cattle in some places. The new fence replaced previous livestock fences at some points, and some stretches are so low that cows can step right over it.

AP: Conn. officials were warned about attack chimp

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP)—Connecticut officials were repeatedly warned about the dangers posed by a chimpanzee who later mauled and blinded a woman and were urged—more than three years before the attack—to take action, but failed to do so, according to records obtained by The Associated Press. The 200-pound chimpanzee named Travis attacked Charla Nash of Stamford in February, ripping off her hands, nose, lips and eyelids. She has been hospitalized for months at the Cleveland Clinic, where her condition late last week was listed as stable. The state's response could affect a high-stakes lawsuit the victim's family filed against the chimp's owner, Sandra Herold of Stamford, seeking $50 million in damages. Attorneys are weighing whether to sue others as well, but declined to comment further.

Asia

NY Times reporter escapes Taliban captivity

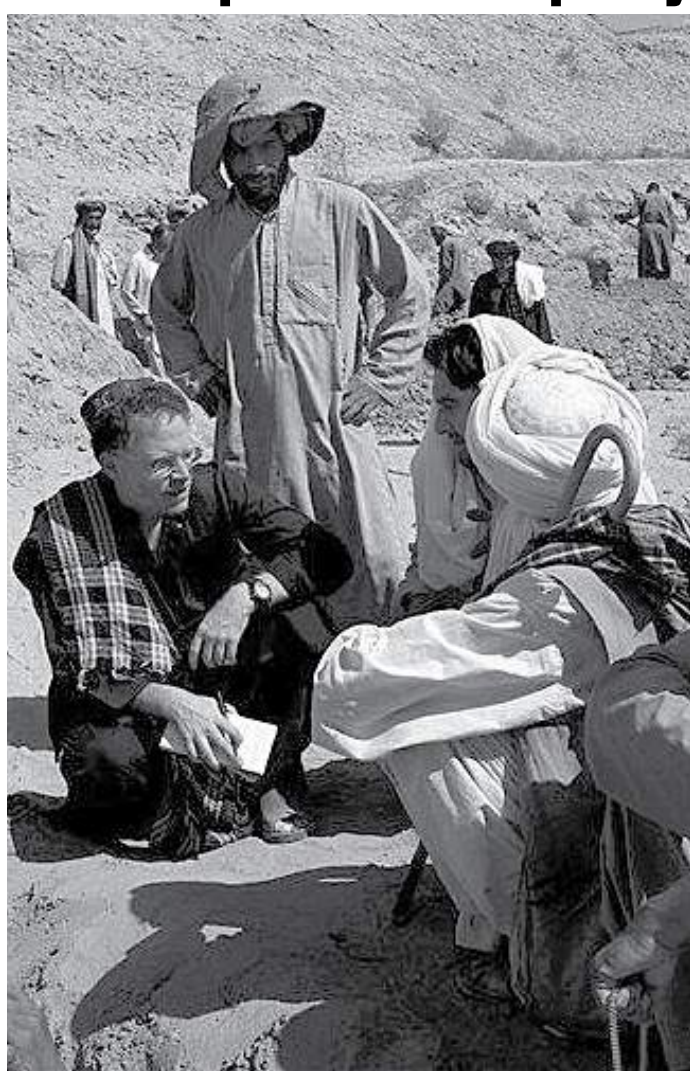
KABUL (AP)—A *New York Times* reporter known for making investigative trips deep inside dangerous conflict zones escaped from militant captors after more than seven months in captivity in Afghanistan and Pakistan by climbing over a wall, the newspaper said Saturday.

David S. Rohde, 41, was abducted Nov. 10 along with an Afghan reporter colleague and a driver south of the Afghan capital, Kabul. He had been traveling through Logar province to interview a Taliban commander, but was apparently intercepted and taken by other militants on the way.

The *Times* reported that Rohde and Afghan reporter Tahir Ludin, 35, on Friday climbed over the wall of a compound where they were held captive in the North Waziristan region of Pakistan.

The two then found a Pakistani army scout, who led them to a nearby base, the *Times* said. On Saturday, the two were flown to the U.S. military base in Bagram, Afghanistan, the Times reported.

A U.S. military spokeswoman, Lt. Cmdr. Christine Sidenstricker, said the military had not been involved. She could not say whether the U.S. State Department or CIA had flown the two to the military facility.



AP

In this undated photo believed to have been taken sometime in August or September 2007, New York Times reporter David Rohde interviews Afghans in the Helmand region of Afghanistan.

Imelda Marcos at 80: Penniless with diamond ring

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Imelda Marcos is nothing if not a survivor.

As the Philippines' most notorious first lady approaches 80, she is still courting publicity and claiming that despite the billions reportedly stashed away during her late husband Ferdinand's rule, and the 22-carat diamond ring on her finger, she is nearly broke.

Marcos

"Here I am, at 80, still struggling to look presentable," the former beauty queen said as she greeted reporters this weekend in her swank two-story Manila penthouse, wearing a dark red dress over matching pants and red slippers.

Imelda, whose birthday is July 2, will forever be remembered for the dazzling jewels and 1,220 pairs of shoes she left behind in the presidential palace after the "people's power" revolt that toppled Marcos's authoritarian regime in 1986 and forced them into exile in Hawaii. She said the diamond ring was given to her by Ferdinand 55 years ago on their engagement.

Ferdinand died in 1989 and Imelda was allowed to return home in 1991. Despite her notoriety for extravagance in a nation wracked by poverty, she still has her supporters and even won a congressional seat in 1995. She ran, unsuccessfully, for president in 1992.

These days she keeps busy working on her own jewelry collection, making the pieces from her old accessories and clothes, mixed with newly bought stones and other materials.

ASIAN BRIEFS

16 people killed in eastern China factory blast

BEIJING (AP)—An explosion at a factory in eastern China killed 16 people and injured dozens Sunday, an official and state media said. The blast happened at 3 a.m. local time Sunday (1900GMT Saturday) at a factory producing quartz sand in Fengyang, a county in Anhui province, said an official at the State Administration of Work Safety. The cause was not immediately clear. The Fengyang county government said it was still collecting information on the explosion. The work safety official, who would not give her name, said 16 people died in the explosion. Xinhua News Agency and state broadcaster CCTV said 44 people were injured.

Police disperse protesters after clashes in China

BEIJING (AP)—Hundreds of baton-wielding police on Sunday dispersed protesters and cordoned off a city hotel in central China after a young man's mysterious death sparked unrest, a local official and a witness said. More than 200 people were injured in the clashes between police and residents outside the hotel in Hubei province's Shishou city, according to a Hong Kong-based rights group, the Information Center for Human Rights and Democracy. Hundreds had been angered by the death of 24-year old Tu Yuangao, who was found dead Wednesday evening in front of the Yonglong hotel.

Grenade blasts kill 1, wound 31 in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Unidentified men hurled two grenades near a crowded town plaza where a beauty contest was being held in the southern Philippines, killing at least one person and wounding 31 others, police said Sunday. The attack happened late Saturday in Maasim, Sarangani province, about 600 miles (1,000 kilometers) south of Manila, police chief Abraham Madrid said. More than 100 policemen and army troops from nearby regions will be deployed to secure Maasim township, which will celebrate a religious festival Sunday, officials said.

World

WORLD BRIEFS

Truck bomb kills more than 70 in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP)—A truck bomb exploded as worshippers left a Shiite mosque in northern Iraq on Saturday, killing more than 70 people and wounding nearly 200 in the deadliest bombing this year. The blast near Kirkuk—a city rife with ethnic tensions—came hours after the prime minister warned Iraqis to expect more violence as U.S. troops withdraw from Iraqi cities by the end of this month, but he insisted the deadline will be met "no matter what happens." The Americans already have begun pulling back combat troops from inner-city outposts in Baghdad, Mosul and other urban areas ahead of the June 30 deadline set in a security pact that calls for a full U.S. withdrawal from Iraq by 2012.

New Acropolis Museum opens with lavish party

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Gods, heroes and long-dead mortals stepped off their plinths into the evening sky of Athens on Saturday during the lavish launch of the new Acropolis Museum, a decades-old dream that Greece hopes will also help reclaim a cherished part of its heritage from Britain. The digital animated display on the museum walls ended years of delays and wrangling over the ultra-modern building, set among apartment blocks and elegant neoclassical houses at the foot of the Acropolis hill. The nearly euro3 million ($4.1 million) opening ceremony was attended by some 400 guests, including European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso, UNESCO Director-General Koichiro Matsuura, and foreign heads of state and government. Conspicuously, there were no government officials from Britain, which has repeatedly refused to repatriate dozens of 2,500-year-old sculptures from the Parthenon temple that are held in the British Museum.

Defiant Tehran protesters battle police

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Thousands of protesters defied Iran's highest authority Saturday and marched on waiting security forces that fought back with baton charges, tear gas and water cannons as the crisis over disputed elections lurched into volatile new ground.

In a separate incident, a state-run television channel reported that a suicide bombing at the shrine of the Islamic Revolution leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini killed at least two people and wounded eight. The report could be not independently evaluated due to government restrictions on journalists.

If proven true, the reports could enrage conservatives and bring strains among backers of opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi. Another state channel broadcast images of broken glass but no other damage or casualties, and showed a witness saying three people had been wounded.

Ruler with 45 homes among world's most corrupt

LIBREVILLE, Gabon (AP)—When longtime dictator Omar Bongo died last week, he left behind at least 66 bank accounts. The first family owned 45 homes in France, including at least 14 in Paris and 11 on the French Riviera.

Bongo

And they boasted of 19 or more luxury cars, including a Bugatti sports model that cost the Republic of Gabon $1.5 million.

But most of the country Bongo governed for 41 years is still covered in jungle. A third of its people live in poverty so dire that some dig through the trash dump to feed their children.

The contrast makes it all the more striking that hundreds of thousands of those people lined the streets of the capital this week to bid goodbye to the 73-year-old ruler who bled their country dry.

INVITATION FOR BIDS
WATER TASK FORCE
IFB09-GOV-095

Governor Benigno R. Fitial, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed bids for the Rapogao and Sablan Quarry Well Fields Isolation and Water System Improvement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed).

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a copy of his CNMI Business License in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- Approximately 8,900 linear feet of distribution and transmission lines and appurtenances.
- One new 0.40 MG glass fused to steel water storage tank, with site work including access road and retaining wall
- New Chlorination System building
- Reconnection of numerous existing water service connections
- Two new pressure reducing stations
- Additive Bids for Maui IV booster station rehabilitation and the Flame Tree water line replacement

A non-refundable payment of $300 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after **June 8, 2009** at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at **10:00** a.m., on **June 23, 2009**, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit will be scheduled at the pre-bid meeting.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:30 PM on **June 22, 2009**.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations as out in the NMI Administrative Code Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3. Preference is available to local bidders per Public Law 5-95 and 5-118.

Sealed bids must be marked **"IFB09-GOV-095".** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 3:00 pm local time **July 8, 2009**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 3:00 pm local time **July 8, 2009**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **July 8, 2009**, and must be received no later than **July 17, 2009**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, **July 20, 2009**. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on **July 9, 2009**.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Benigno R. Fitial
Governor and Contracting Officer

Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement and Supply

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
WATER TASK FORCE
RFP09-GOV-110

A&E of Tinian 0.5 Million Gallon Reservoir

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed Proposals from licensed architectural and engineering (A&E) firms for the Design of Tinian 0.5 Million Gallon Reservoir, Carolinas, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project Scope of Work will be available at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, on or after **June 22, 2009**.

All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 pm, **July 7, 2009**, to Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager (facsimile) number (670) 664-2279.

This project is funded in part by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of project approval from OIA.

The proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is available to local proposers per Public Law 15-95 as further amended by Public Law 15-118. If preference is claimed, it must be claimed at the time of proposal submission.

Four (4) copies plus one original of the sealed Proposals must be submitted to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than **2:00 p.m., (CNMI local time), on July 22, 2009.**

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"A&E of Tinian 0.5 Million Gallon Reservoir Project, RFP09- GOV-110".** For proposers within the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **2:00 p.m. (CNMI local time), on July 22, 2009.** Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than **2:00 p.m. (CNMI local time), on July 22, 2009**, and may be transmitted via facsimile to **(670) 664-1515** or email procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and four (4) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **July 22, 2009** and must be received no later than **July 31, 2009**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so shall be in the best interests of the CNMI. All Proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

Benigno R. Fitial
Governor, CNMI

Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

Health & Fitness

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Niecia Staggs demonstrates deck push-ups at Equinox in Rolling Hills Estates, Calif.

Water works

For more information and videos on water workouts:

- The Aquatic Exercise Association at www.aeawave.com targets certified aquatic fitness instructor members, but the Web site features articles on aquatic fitness and health, plus instructional DVDs.
- Hydro-Fit is a commercial Web site offering aquatic exercise gear, but it also offers a "choreography library" of easy to follow line drawings explaining a number of exercises: www.hydrofit.com/home/hyf/smartlist 40/choreography library.html
- EHow offers several high-quality aquatic exercise videos: www.ehow.com/topic 856 exercises-water-aerobics.html

By JEANNINE STEIN
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Hey, swimmers, don't limit yourself to lanes, the aquatic version of a hamster wheel.

And landlubbers, give up the notion that strength training and cardio are best done on terra firma.

Aqua aerobics, or aquatic fitness, is no longer the domain of people recovering from injuries, trying to exercise despite limited abilities or struggling with chronic conditions such as arthritis.

Pool workouts are hot, especially group exercise classes. The latest ones incorporate Pilates, kickboxing and strength training, targeting all muscle groups and building endurance.

"Working out in the water is excellent cross-training," says Julie Seamster, an aquatic fitness instructor at California Family Fitness in Sacramento. "On land you're using gravity, but in water you're using the water's properties—it's heavier than air, and you have resistance in all directions."

Water also provides bones and joints with a break from constant pounding—a big boon for those who run or play sports such as soccer, volleyball and basketball. "You can exercise at a high intensity with zero impact," says Niecia Staggs, a masters swim coach at Equinox.

"You also have the challenge of maintaining core stability," says Doris Dodge-Thews, a master trainer with 24-Hour Fitness. "Any time you're in water, you challenge the core to maintain any movement." Water's constant motion forces the body to stay upright and balanced, which targets the muscles in the trunk and back.

Obviously, already-fit types looking for new challenges, especially as summer approaches, should think twice before passing on the opportunity to work out while staying cool.

We asked four aquatic fitness experts for their favorite pool exercises that can be added to lane swims, or done on their own. While most of these can be tackled by water workout novices, they're not necessarily for the faint of heart. Many trainers recommending taking a

Continued on Next Page

Use your noodle

By JEANNINE STEIN
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

A few inexpensive props can broaden your water repertoire, make workouts more intense and add an element of fun.

Some pieces of equipment are probably familiar, such as the foam noodle; others may be more obscure. To get a handle on essential gear for water workouts—and how to use it—we asked Doris Dodge-Thews and Katina Brock for tips.

Don't be afraid to experiment, but do take precautions. Use gear for the first time only in shallow water, and exercise only when others are in the pool.

■ Foam noodle (less than $10): The common cylindrical pool toy makes you buoyant while exercising. Sit on it and work the upper body; place it along your back with arms outstretched to work the legs and abs; place it in front and rest your arms on it while working legs; wrap it around your waist; or straddle it. Pressing the foam noodle into the water creates resistance for the arms and legs. "The noodle can be a million things," says Dodge-Thews. "The more you play with it, the more fun it can become."

■ Buoys (about $22 to $30 per pair): Usually shaped like dumbbells, these are made out of foam and plastic, come in different sizes and offer muscle resistance. For a biceps curl, for example, hold the buoy in one hand, arm bent, with the buoy just above the water. Pull it down, keeping the elbow steady, and let it up slowly, fighting the urge to allow the buoyancy to carry it up. Or, hold the buoys out in front of your chest, arms straight, and push down toward your thighs, engaging the core.

Webbed gloves (about $15 to $30 per pair): These wrist-length, lightweight gloves are typically made out of neoprene or similar stretchy material and either cover the whole hand or leave the top part of the fingers exposed. The spaces in between the fingers are webbed, offering more drag when hands move through the water. That, Brock says, makes muscles work harder, increasing cardiovascular function.

■ Kickboard or paddle board (about $8 to $20): This flat, foam arch-shaped piece is generally used by swimmers to work on kicking technique, but Dodge-Thews says it's also handy for warm-ups before an aquatic fitness workout—revving up the cardiovascular system. Grab the board with hands outstretched, or hug it to your chest and kick. Rotating the body from side to side engages the core.

Tips from a pro

Want to become a strong—really strong—swimmer?

A swimming coach outlines easy ways to kick off a swimming workout at latimes.com/pooltechniques, even if the last thing you lapped was an ice cream cone.

Nancy Kirkpatrick-Reno, head masters coach at Conejo Simi Aquatic Masters and a former masters swimming world champion, covers everything from what kind of suit to wear to how to maintain proper form in the water. Novices and experienced swimmers learn what to eat and drink before and after training, and how to build on various drills to improve strength and endurance. A video tutorial reveals techniques for swimming and drills.

(c) 2009, Los Angeles Times

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB09-BOP-108

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 01, 2009 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A TERMINAL SERVER FOR THE BOARD OF PAROLE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ **JOSEPH T. GUERRERO**
CHIEF OF PAROLE

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB09-OPM-086
Submission/Opening Date: July 15, 2009 • Time: 10:00 a.m.

"OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR THE OFFICE OF THE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, SAIPAN"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan during regular working hours.

Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.

The lessor must comply with CNMI Public Law 15-23, Article 5, Section 8652 (A)-(D)

/s/ ISIDRO K. SEMAN
ACTING DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP09-DEQ-103
Submission: July 20, 2009 • Time: 2:00 p.m.

"BIOLOGICAL CRITERIA DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

Copies of the scope of work may be obtained at the DEQ office located in the Gualo Rai Center building, Saipan.

Questions regarding this project may be submitted by facsimile to **MR. Frank M. Rabauliman, Director of DEQ** at (670) 664-8500 no later than the close of business on July 09, 2009.

/s/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
DIRECTOR, DEQ

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a Board of Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on Friday, June 26, 2009 beginning at 10:00 AM at the MPLT Conference Room, Suite #107, Morgen Building; Saipan, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

I PRELIMINARIES
- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes

II CONSULTANT'S REPORTS
- Legal Counsel Reports
- Investment Consultant Reports
- Loan Administrator Reports
  - o Loan Modifications
- Board Consultant Reports
  - o Contingent Home Loans - Delinquency Status

III COMMITTEE REPORTS
- Administrative
- Investments
  - o Outgoing Correspondences
  - o Proposed Asset Allocation Study
- Governmental Relations

IV OLD BUSINESS
- By-laws Review & Amendments
- Office Space

V NEW BUSINESS
- Review of Committees Formation
- Trustees & Administrators Institute Report
- SLI 16-12

VI EXECUTIVE SESSION
At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.
- JEU Estate

VII MISCELLANEOUS
VIII ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Vianney B. Hocog
Chairman, Board of Trustees

couple of group classes to get a feel for proper form. Some exercises require minimal equipment, such as small, hand-held buoys or water noodles, which can be found at most sporting goods stores or online.

Niecia Staggs

Masters swim coach, Equinox, Southern California:

1. For a good cardio exercise that gets the blood flowing and also works the leg muscles, begin by resting your arms on a water noodle placed around your back in a C-shape. Bend your body at the hips in a V, so the feet are up at the surface. Make sure your core is tight, and legs are straight with toes pointed. Holding tension in the leg muscles, cross the feet back and forth at the ankles, just below the surface of the water. Do it as briskly as you can. The water provides resistance. Start with 11/2 minutes and gradually work up to about five minutes.

2. While still in that V position, do leg sweeps. Keep the right leg straight and push the toes toward the left hand, then reverse it -- take the left foot over to the right hand. You'll feel it in the core, but this also targets the quadriceps, hamstrings and glutes, similar to a kicking exercise. You may not be able to take your foot all the way to your hand, but strive for increasing your range of motion. Even if you don't have full range of motion to start, you'll still feel it. Do about 12 to 16 reps on each leg.

3. Deck push-ups are great for the shoulders, back and arms. Stand by the side of the pool facing the pool's edge, with hands shoulder-width apart, about chest-high on the deck. Push down through the palms and, with a little jump, come out of the water so that your hips are even with the deck. Hold that position for a couple of seconds, and then lower down slowly.

Doris Dodge-Thews

Master trainer, 24 Hour Fitness, Orange County, Calif.:

1. To give your abs a workout, place a noodle along your back and rest your arms on it. Let your feet dangle in the water, fully extended. Bring the knees up to the chest, feeling the move in your core. Everything has to fire to make that exercise happen. To change it up, rotate the knees toward the shoulders as you bring them up, which will target the obliques. Do three sets of 25 reps.

2. This exercise uses buoys to work the obliques and back extensors: Stand in chest-high water with legs shoulder-width apart. Holding a buoy in each hand, bend to the left and take the buoy toward the knee. This forces the obliques to contract, and works the back extensors. Resist the movement on the way up, and do the same thing on the other side. Do 20 repetitions on each side.

3. Another good move that targets the hip flexors, glutes, quads, and inner and outer thigh muscles is called a clam digger. With the noodle behind your back, lie on it with arms extended, and angle your body to one side. With knees together, one on top of the other, bend the legs. Keeping the feet together, open the top knee, then bring knees together again. Flip over and do the same on the other side. Repeat 20 times on each side.

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Water limits joint impact and provides resistance.

Katina Brock

Water aerobics instructor, North Valley Family YMCA, Los Angeles (Northridge):

1. For a cardio boost, try tuck jumps. Start by having your feet on the bottom of the pool, water about chest-high. Push off the bottom and go into a tuck position, bringing your hands to your shins, like you're doing a cannonball. If you pull your arms down hard, you'll feel it. Then release the arms as the feet shoot down to the bottom. It's better to do this quickly—don't rest on the return—to get your heart rate up. A quicker tempo will work the legs more too. To make this move more difficult, start with one leg lifted in the tuck position and alternate legs coming up into the tuck position instead of both coming up at the same time. Consider this interval training—do it for a minute or two minutes, gradually increasing the time.

2. Jumping jacks are also good for cardio and working major leg muscles. Start with your feet together, touching the bottom of the pool, arms by your side, water about mid-chest-high. Jump out so the feet are wide, and the arms come up straight out to the side. Jump back to a standing position, and repeat, but don't land stiff-legged—land with some softness in the knees to absorb the small amount of impact to the legs.

3. For a faux cycling workout, put the noodle floating device between your legs for buoyancy and move your legs as if you were pedaling. You can move your arms in a breast stroke or a paddling motion, and even cycle backward. Add some visual imagery to it too—pretend you're in a group cycling class and lean back like you were going uphill, or lean forward slightly as on a downhill. Even if you are a cyclist, by doing this in the water you'll be using some slightly different muscle groups. It's just different enough, but it allows you to keep or improve your training endurance and skills.

Julie Seamster

Aquatic fitness instructor, California Family Fitness, Sacramento, Calif.:

1. Jogging in the water is great for improving cardio, and the legs work while moving against the water. Try jogging in shallow water that comes up to between your belly button and chest. As you jog, do a reverse breast stroke, in which your arms are coming in toward each other, so you're kind of hugging the water. Gather as much water as possible while running forward. You'll be resisting the water as you travel forward, which will impede your travel. Jog forward for about 16 counts, then go backward doing a regular breast stroke, which will impede your travel again. This helps to improve cardiovascular function and endurance. If trying this in the ocean, travel laterally so that the water level stays the same.

2. For the upper body, do bicep curls using hand-held buoys. With palms facing up and the buoy on the water's surface, bring the buoy down, keeping the elbow steady and by your side. This exercise also targets the triceps—when you pull down, you'll feel it in the back of the arm. Let the buoy up slowly. Do about eight to 12 reps for a couple of sets. Whenever you use buoyant equipment in this way, take precautions with your shoulder and neck. Holding the buoy, there's a tendency to raise your shoulders up toward your ears, but your shoulders should be kept pressed down.

3. To work the core, stand in a squat position with both feet touching the ground and knees bent. The water should be about chest-high. Work the water with the upper body, scooping it with palms up, like you're rowing a boat. You can do this with arms in unison, or alternating them. Squeeze the glutes and contract your abs and keep the core strong as you work the water with your hands. Do this in intervals, starting with 20 seconds, gradually increasing it to 45 seconds.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP 09-018

Project Management Services for PSS Construction Projects in Rota

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified individuals or firms to manage PSS construction projects on the island of Rota, CNMI

Beginning June 15, 2009 the Scope of Work and related information is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950. Requests faxed to 664.3791 will also be entertained.

Proposals shall be placed in a sealed envelope marked **"RFP 09-018"** containing one (l) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than 11:30 a.m. on July 2, 2009. Any proposal received after this date and time will not be accepted.

Procedural questions shall be in writing and addressed to Robert Florian, Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax to 664.3791 or e-mailed to florian@saipan.com. Technical questions may be addressed to David Loan, PSS CIP Coordinator, via fax to 237.3009 or e-mailed to loand@pss.cnmi.mp.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Robert Florian
P&S Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY
for
PROGRAM YEAR 2009
and
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
This ad is paid for by HUD Funds.

The government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands expects an allocation of $1,386,572 Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); $647,474 Home Investment Partnerships (HOME); and, $62,844 Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds for Program Year (PY) 2009 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

CDBG funds, authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, may be used for a wide range of community development activities to revitalize neighborhoods, provide affordable housing, expand economic opportunities, and improve community facilities and services. However, use of these funds must meet at least one of the national objectives which include: 1) to benefit low and moderate-income families; 2) to eliminate slum or blight conditions; or 3) meet urgent community development needs.

The CDBG program requires grant recipients to certify that it will minimize displacement of persons as a result of activities assisted with CDBG funds. The CNMI government does not plan on undertaking any activity which will cause displacement of persons. In the event of any unforeseen displacement resulting from any CDBG-funded activity, the CNMI government will comply with the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, its implementing regulation and applicable local law.

HOME funds may be used to create affordable housing through financial assistance, site acquisition, or improvement, and rehabilitating existing residential dwellings as well as providing funds for new construction or purchase of a single-family residential dwelling. Use of HOME funds must benefit low-income families.

ESG funds may be used to rehabilitate or convert buildings into homeless shelters and for shelter operating expenses, supportive services and homeless prevention activities. Use of ESG funds must benefit the homeless.

In order to plan ahead as to the use(s) of the PY 2009 allocation which is expected within the next few months, the NMHC which administers the CPD program on behalf of the CNMI government, will be conducting hearings to obtain public input on community development and housing needs, and to provide information to the public on the status of the approved ongoing CDBG projects. The public hearings will be held as follows:

1. **On Rota, July 8, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. at the CDA/NMHC Office, Songsong Village, Rota;**
2. **On Tinian, July 9, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. at the CDA/NMHC Office in San Jose Village; and,**
3. **On Saipan, July 10, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan.**

Additional inquiries concerning the CDBG program may be directed in writing to the Corporate Director, or Zenie P. Mafnas, Planner/Grant Writer, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. 500514, Saipan, MP. 96950, or by calling 234-6866 or 234-7689.

Joshua T. Sasamoto
Corporate Director

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Life & Style

FBI files show wide 'Deep Throat' investigation

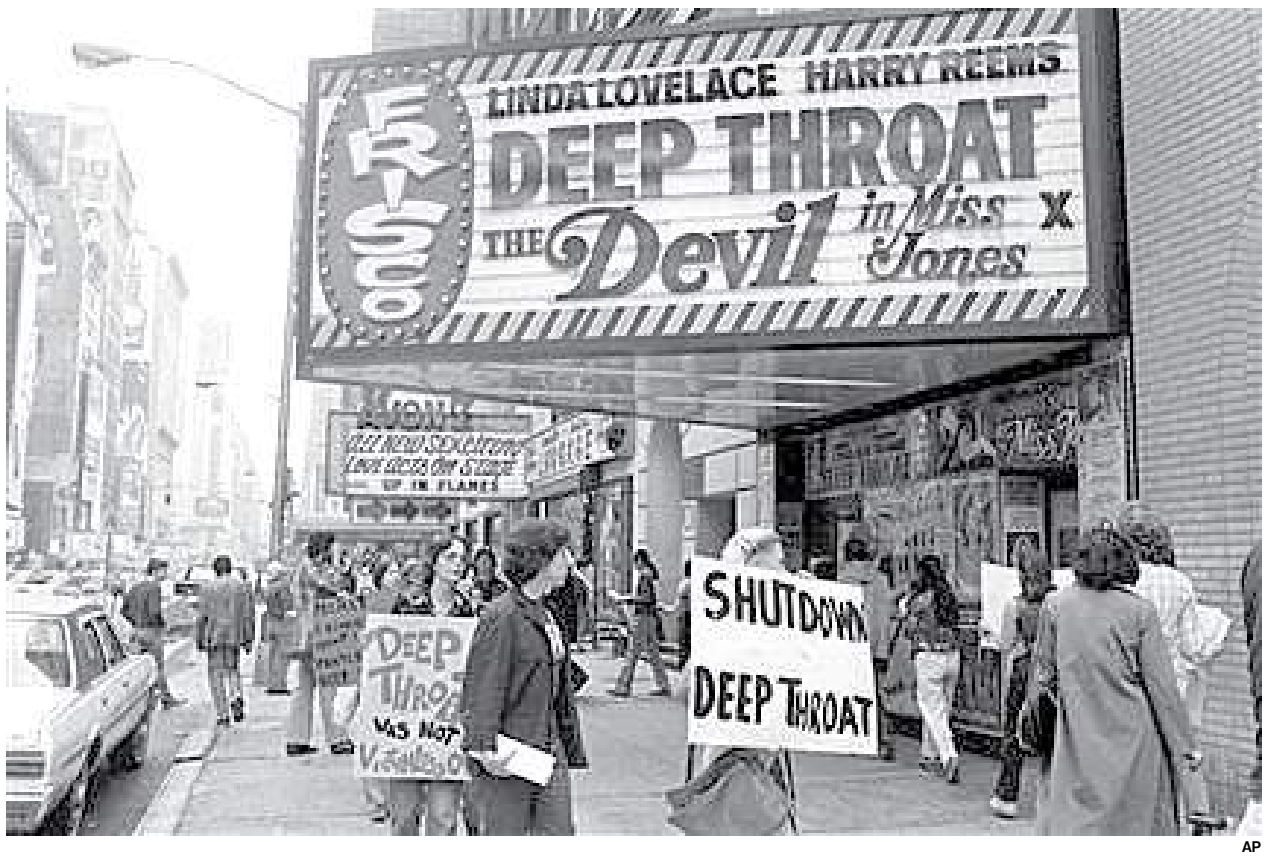
MIAMI (AP)—Newly released FBI files show agents across the country and at the highest level of the agency investigated "Deep Throat"—the 1972 porn movie, not the shadowy Watergate figure—in a vain attempt to roll back what became a cultural shift toward more permissive entertainment.

The documents released to The Associated Press show the expanse of agents' investigation into the film: seizing copies of the movie, having negatives analyzed in labs and interviewing everyone from actors and producers to messengers who delivered reels to theaters.

All of it in a failed attempt to stop the spread of a movie that some saw as the victory of a cultural and sexual revolution and others saw as simply decadent.

"Today we can't imagine authorities at any level of government—local, state or federal—being involved in obscenity prosecutions of this kind," said Mark Weiner, a constitutional law professor and legal historian at Rutgers-Newark School of Law. "The story of 'Deep Throat' is the story of the last gasp of the forces lined up against the cultural and sexual revolution and it is the advent of the entry of pornography into the mainstream."

The papers are among 498 pages from the FBI file on Gerard Damiano, who directed the movie and died in October. Released this month following a Freedom of Information Act request by the AP, they are just a glimpse into Damiano's roughly 4,800-page file. More than 1,000 additional pages were withheld under FOIA exemptions and because they duplicated other material; the balance of the file has not yet been reviewed and released.



AP

In this May 31, 1980 file photo, protesters picket the theater where the film "Deep Throat" is being shown, near Times Square in New York.

Many parts of the released files are whited out and the FBI's ultimate targets are unclear, but the seriousness with which the agency treated the investigation is unquestionable.

Authorities have long said the movie was made with mafia money—and the FBI has linked the mob with porn over the years—but the file includes no mention of mob links.

The file includes memos between the FBI's top men—L. Patrick Gray, William Ruckelshaus and Clarence Kelley, successive heads of the agency after J. Edgar Hoover—and field offices so widespread, it seemed nearly all of the country's biggest cities were involved.

While much of the probe centered in New York, where many involved in the film lived, and Miami, where it was largely shot, agents from Honolulu to Detroit were involved.

On various entries in the file, a checklist of top FBI brass appears in the top right corner, with initials next to some names. One of those listed is W. Mark Felt, the FBI second-in-command whose "Deep Throat" alias as a Watergate informant came from the movie's title. However, none of the markings indicate he read any of the materials on the movie whose name became synonymous with his role in bringing down Richard Nixon's presidency.

Felt got the double-entendre nickname because he leaked crucial information about Nixon administration corruption on "deep background" to Washington Post reporter *Bob Woodward*. His identity remained a secret until 2005. He died in December.

Aside from investigative records tracking subpoenas, interviews, screenings and shipments of the film, the Damiano file includes various FBI agents' play-by-play accounts of the movie's plot, and the specific role of Damiano in the agency's investigation.

The FBI notes Damiano had been "somewhat cooperative," On Aug. 7, 1973, an assistant U.S. attorney general writes to Kelley, saying Damiano is being considered for immunity. The memo doesn't specify the crime, though mentioned throughout the file is the charge of interstate transportation of obscene material.

Among the areas of the case file whited out is an interview with the star of the film, who at the time went by the name Linda Lovelace.

"Deep Throat" achieved fame unlike any pornographic film in history and become the most widely known adult film to reach a general audience. It was hugely profitable—made for about $25,000 and amassing hundreds of millions in receipts—and became a cultural buzzword.

Officials at every level of government tried to stop screenings and obscenity trials continued for years. But in the end, experts say, it represents the end of an era in which the government sought to stop the changing cultural tides.

Eugene Volokh, a law professor at UCLA, said the oddity of the scope of the investigation into "Deep Throat" is a reflection of very different times.

"Certainly today, with our broadly socially less restrictive attitude to most pornography and to sex more broadly it may seem odd that the government was spending so much effort on something like this," he said. "But attitudes back then were much different."

Winfrey visits art festival at her SAfrican school

HENLEY-ON-KLIP, South Africa (AP)—Oprah Winfrey sat rapt Friday in the front row of the state-of-the-art theater during a show put on by the poor girls she has built an exclusive school for.

The talk show host clapped enthusiastically, tapped her foot during a musical item and had a warm hug for one young girl who recited an essay she wrote describing her broken poverty-stricken family and her desire to win a Nobel Peace Prize.

"I am moved by the stories," Winfrey told The Associated Press at the end of the school's annual weeklong arts festival. "When you think about these little girls three years ago carrying buckets of water on their heads and (living) with no running water. Now they are talking about going to Harvard and winning a Nobel Peace Prize.

"I am moved by the fact that I have a vision for them and it now feels like they have embodied that vision for themselves. They are living the dream," she said.

The girls were treated to acting classes by British actress Thandie Newton and learnt about art and design from Greg Lauren, nephew of American fashion designer Ralph.

The festival included dance classes, photography workshops, and even cooking sessions with Art Smith, Winfrey's former personal chef.

Newton said she was inspired by the talent and enthusiasm of the girls.

AP

US talk show host Oprah Winfrey, center, and British actress Thandie Newton, second right, pose for pictures with students at the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls, in Henley on Klip, South Africa, Friday June 19, 2009.

"Their tenacity, their enthusiasm, their ability has just surpassed all of my expectations, I have had an amazing time," she said.

During the week's festivities, the girls got a chance to show their rhythm in rap classes with a popular South African musician and learnt the art of storytelling from the legendary African storyteller Gcina Mhlope.

In the finale of Friday's ceremony, the audience cheered when a group of girls donned Wellington boots for a raucous performance of gumboot dancing. Gumboot dancing—where performers rhythmically slap and stamp their feet—is a form of dance made popular by workers at South Africa's many mines.

The theme of this year's festival was about creating a greater awareness of the environment through recyclable art.

The girls made radios fashioned from recycled wire, graceful vases from recycled paper and brightly colored flowers cut from discarded plastic bottles.

ABC: T.R. Knight is leaving 'Grey's Anatomy'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A medical mystery was solved Friday: T.R. Knight won't be back on "Grey's Anatomy" next season.

"Leaving `Grey's Anatomy' was not an easy decision for me to make. I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to play this character and will miss my fellow cast and crew very much," Knight said in a statement.

Knight

He also thanked fans for their support, but conspicuously didn't mention series creator and executive producer Shonda Rhimes.

Knight, who played Dr. George O'Malley, had seen his role diminished this season and asked to be let out of a contract that still had three years to go. In the season finale, his character had been injured—fatally, it appeared—as he saved a woman from a bus collision.

In a statement from ABC announcing Knight's much-rumored departure, Rhimes wished Knight "the best in his future endeavors" on behalf of the show's "family."

"He is an incredibly talented actor and a person whose strength of character is admired by all of us," Rhimes said.

Katherine Heigl's character, Dr. Izzie Stevens, also appeared to have an uncertain future after brain surgery in the May finale. But Heigl will return to the show, ABC said Friday.

Heigl had previously expressed discontent with the writing for her character and, with steady film roles, was considered a candidate for departure. In March, however, she said she was ready to stay and the decision rested with producers.

Although "Grey's Anatomy" features an ensemble cast that includes stars Ellen Pompeo and Patrick Dempsey, Heigl is a key part of the top 10 show.

Knight, who has a theater background, is said to be weighing stage projects as well as films for his post-"Grey's" life.

He was part of a tumultuous chapter in the history of the show, which debuted in 2005. In 2007, co-star Isaiah Washington was dropped from "Grey's Anatomy" after using an anti-gay epithet backstage at the Golden Globe Awards while denying he'd used it previously on the set against Knight, who is gay.

Report: Supermodel Bundchen is pregnant

BOSTON (AP)—Is she or isn't she?

People.com is reporting Gisele Bundchen is pregnant. Citing two anonymous sources, the report says Tom Brady's wife is due early next year.

Brady's mother, Galynn, told the Associated Press on Friday that she had no comment on the report. The supermodel's agent at IMG, Anne Nelson, told the AP that she doesn't comment on the personal lives of her clients.

Brady has a son, Jack, with actress Bridget Moynahan.

Late last month, the New England Patriots quarterback said Bundchen was not pregnant. "One is enough," Brady said on May 28. "I have dogs, and that's all I need."

RadarOnline.com previously had reported that Bundchen was telling friends she's pregnant.

Top model Gisele Bundchen wears a creation by Colcci during the Sao Paulo Fashion Week in Sao Paulo, Wednesday, June 17, 2009.

AP

Madonna's adopted daughter leaves Malawi

LILONGWE, Malawi (AP)—Madonna's new daughter has flown out of her native Malawi on a private jet headed for London, an airport employee and a person familiar with Madonna's adoption proceedings in this southern African country said Saturday.

The airport employee, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the matter, said 3-year-old Chifundo "Mercy" James left late Friday headed to London, with a stop in neighboring South Africa. The girl, the second child Madonna has adopted from Malawi, was reportedly accompanied on the flight by a nanny, a child nurse and a third aide.

The person familiar with the adoption, who also was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly, said the girl known as Mercy should have reached London on Saturday morning. Madonna has homes in England and in the United States.

Malawi's highest court had granted the adoption June 12, overturning an April lower court ruling that Madonna had not spent enough time in Malawi to be given a child.

The high court said the first judge had imposed too narrow a definition of residency, and lauded Madonna for her work with children in a poor country where half a million have lost a parent to AIDS.

Madonna's Raising Malawi, a charity founded in 2006, helps feed, educate and provide medical care for some of Malawi's orphans.

Madonna adopted a son, David, from Malawi last year.

Children's welfare groups had expressed concern that rules meant to protect children were being bent because of Madonna's celebrity, and perhaps out of gratitude for what she has done for Malawi.

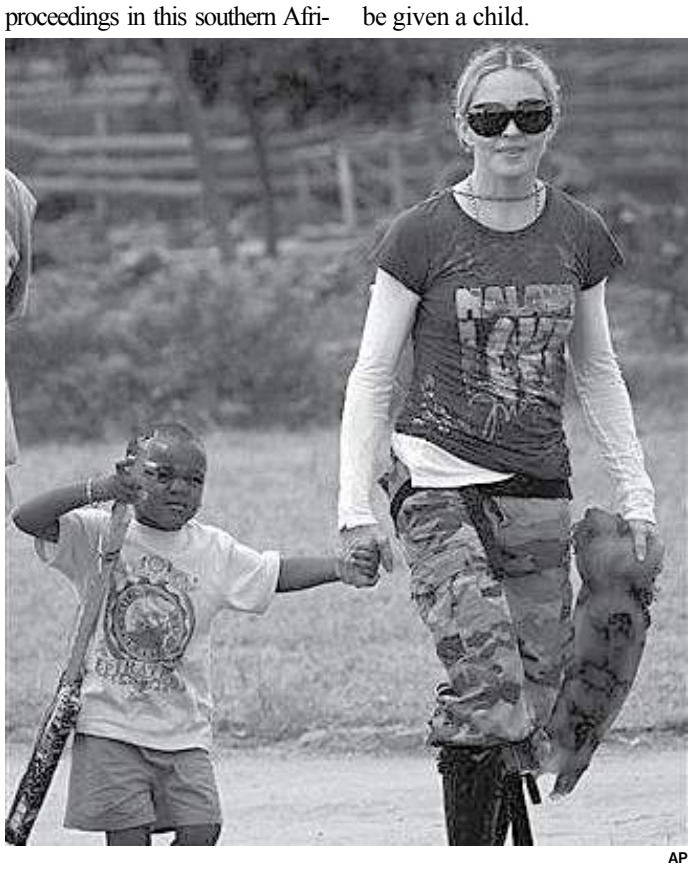
Madonna met Mercy in 2006 at Kondanani Children's Village, an orphanage in Bvumbwe, just south of Blantyre. It was the same year she began the process of adopting David, whom she found at another orphanage in central Malawi.

The girl's 18-year-old mother was unmarried and died soon after she gave birth. Since Madonna moved to adopt the girl, a dispute has arisen between the girl's maternal relatives, who agreed to the adoption, and a man who says he is the father and wants to care for the girl himself, but acknowledged he had never seen Mercy.

Madonna first traveled to Malawi in 2006 while filming a documentary on its devastating poverty and AIDS crisis.

In addition to David, the 50-year-old Madonna has two other children: Lourdes, 12, and Rocco, 8.

Reports that Madonna would in the next few days visit her charity's projects in Malawi could not be confirmed.



AP

In this Monday March 30, 2009 file photo, Madonna with adopted son David Banda visits the Mphandula Day Care Centre for orphans near Lilongwe, Malawi.

Settlement deadline set in Morgan Freeman lawsuit

JACKSON, Miss. (AP)—A federal judge says actor Morgan Freeman and the woman suing him over a car wreck should submit settlement proposals to the court by July 15.

Demaris Meyer claims the 71-year-old Oscar-winning actor was negligent when the car he was driving ran off the side of a rural Mississippi highway in August. Meyer was a passenger in the car when it flipped several times. Both of them were seriously injured.

Freeman's attorney has said in court papers that Meyer shares blame for the accident.

The judge set the deadline on Wednesday. Such deadlines are common in federal civil cases and don't necessarily indicate the sides will agree.

U.S. Magistrate S. Allan Alexander has scheduled a July 29 conference on the case in U.S. District Court in Oxford.

AP

In a Thursday May 14, 2009 file photo, Morgan Freeman arrives at the "Mandela Day" awareness event in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Veteran CBS newsman Walter Cronkite reportedly ill

NEW YORK (AP)—CBS isn't commenting on reports that veteran newsman Walter Cronkite is gravely ill. The 92-year-old former anchor of "The CBS Evening News," who has been ailing for some time, has reportedly taken a turn for the worse, according to TVNewser and other online sites. CBS News spokesman Kevin Tedesco had no comment on Friday.

Cronkite

Bob Schieffer said, "All of us are praying for the best, and our thoughts are with Walter's family." The host of CBS' "Face the Nation" and a longtime Cronkite colleague, Schieffer noted that he had no current news on Cronkite's condition.

The face of CBS News for more than two decades, Cronkite was named "the most trusted man in America" in a 1972 "trust index" survey, and he ended each broadcast with the reassuring signoff, "And that's the way it is."

He left the "Evening News" anchor desk in 1981, but after that kept a busy schedule both in journalistic and other activities.

For 24 years, he served as onsite host for New Year's Day telecasts by the Vienna Philharmonic until ill health forced him to bow out earlier this year.

Son given up for adoption is threat to woman's marriage

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: I became an unwed mother many years ago, when there was a stigma attached to having an illegitimate child. Unable to care for my son, I placed him for adoption. He has now found me.

I have a family, and my husband does not want me to tell our adult children or contact the young man and his family.

Do I go against the wishes of my husband, whom I love very much, or should I tell our children and perhaps risk my husband leaving me?

CONFLICTED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR CONFLICTED: From the tone of your letter your husband is the dominant partner in your marriage. If that's the case, and you really think he would leave you after all these years because you leveled with your children about the fact that they have a half-brother, then keep the secret.

However, if your relationship with your husband is anything approaching a partnership, then stand up for yourself and make it clear that you are the sum total of all your experiences—both the joyful and the painful—and you need to see your son, thank his family for the love and care they have given him, and let your adult children make up their own minds about whether they want to be contacted.

This is the 21st century, and we are far beyond the attitudes of the 1950s in which a human being who is born out of wedlock is a shameful secret forever to be buried. In addition, secrets have a way of always coming out eventually.

DEAR ABBY: My son was required to read "Romeo and Juliet" in his freshman year of high school. It has always bothered me that this play is considered good for teenagers to read, much less required reading. The story ends with Romeo and Juliet committing suicide, which is considered "romantic."

Teen suicide is on the rise. I feel we don't need teens seeing this in literature as a romantic way out of problems. What do you think?

MICHELLE IN CHUBBUCK, IDAHO

DEAR MICHELLE: The writings of William Shakespeare have long been considered classics of literature, and when students are assigned to read "Romeo and Juliet," it's done under the guidance of a teacher. The characters' suicides have never been considered a reasonable solution to the problem of their warring families not allowing them to be together; the play is regarded as a Shakespearian tragedy.

Suicide among teens does not happen because of blighted romance. It happens because the teenager is mentally disturbed, and friends and families are unable to pick up on cues that the young person is in serious trouble. That is why when someone talks or "jokes" about committing suicide, it's so important to report it so the person can get professional help.

DEAR ABBY: My mother and I got into a "debate" about the bridesmaids for my upcoming wedding. She said that a bridesmaid has to be a single woman.

I have often seen bridesmaids who are married, so I didn't think they "had" to be single. Which of us is right?

PENNSYLVANIA BRIDE-TO-BE

DEAR BRIDE-TO-BE: You are. Attitudes have changed radically since your mother was married, and so have weddings. Today there are maternity outfits for pregnant bridesmaids—and brides—so draw your own conclusions.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

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By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

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ARE YOU BORED, UPSET, OR SLEEPY?
I ONLY GET TO CHOOSE ONE?
JIM DAVIS 6-22
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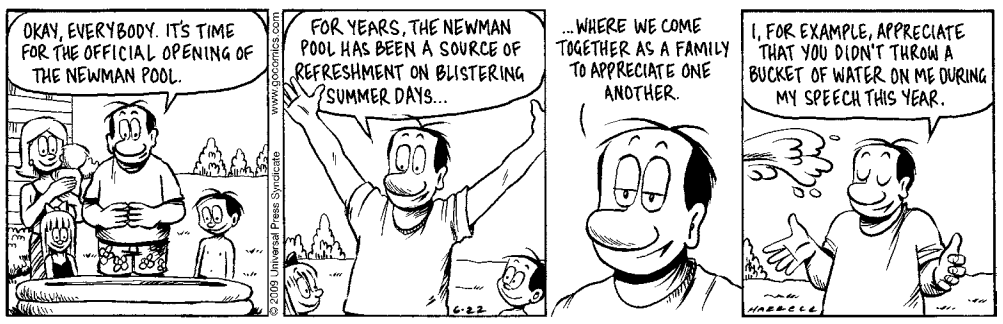
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


OKAY, EVERYBODY. IT'S TIME FOR THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEWMAN POOL.
FOR YEARS, THE NEWMAN POOL HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF REFRESHMENT ON BLISTERING SUMMER DAYS...
...WHERE WE COME TOGETHER AS A FAMILY TO APPRECIATE ONE ANOTHER.
I, FOR EXAMPLE, APPRECIATE THAT YOU DIDN'T THROW A BUCKET OF WATER ON ME DURING MY SPEECH THIS YEAR.
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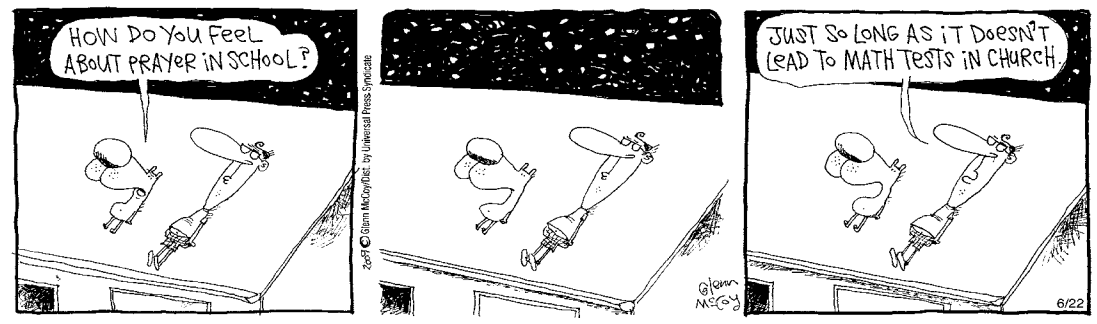
6-22

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT PRAYER IN SCHOOL?
JUST SO LONG AS IT DOESN'T LEAD TO MATH TESTS IN CHURCH.
6/22
Glenn McCoy
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CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

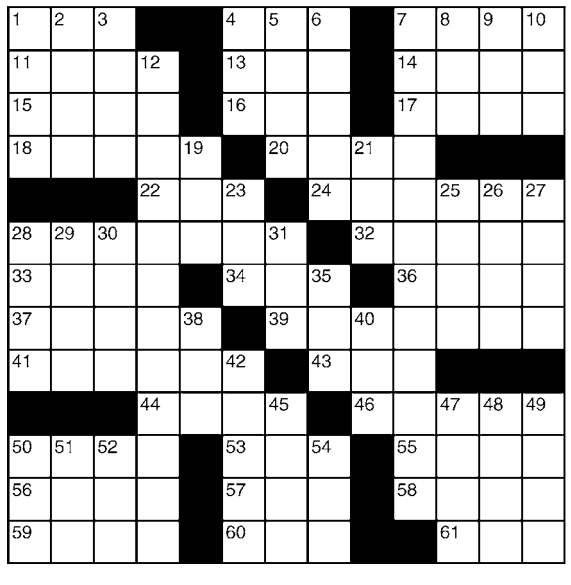
ACROSS
1 U.K. TV network
4 King (Latin)
7 9-Down, for one
11 Came to earth
13 Corroded
14 "— Lang Syne"
15 Assess
16 Chatter
17 Note from the boss
18 Rosemary's partner?
20 Bound
22 Tiny legume
24 Fasteners
28 Graceful animal
32 Otherwise
33 Furniture brand
34 Reverence
36 Mischievous Norse god
37 Dynamite constituent
39 Authorize
41 Slow crawlers
43 Eg. and Syr., once
44 Ardor
46 Rosters
50 "Scat!"
53 Freedom, for short
55 Willy Wonka's creator
56 Chess piece
57 Victory sign
58 On the Mediterranean
59 "— Karenina"
60 Roulette bet
61 Explanation

DOWN
1 Homer's imp son
2 Mediocre
3 Metropolis
4 Tatter
5 And others (Latin)
6 Three-masted sailing ship
7 Home of the Buccaneers
8 Regret
9 Shade provider
10 Tokyo's old name
12 Suburb of Phoenix
19 Conger, e.g.
21 Will Smith biopic
23 Carte intro
25 Winter forecast
26 Jab
27 Use a teaspoon
28 Traps
29 Related
30 Catherine — -Jones
31 Ram's mate
35 Ostrich-like bird
38 Bullring bravo
40 Crony
42 Spirited attack
45 Told a whopper
47 Beauty pageant ID
48 "The Cosby Show" role
49 Cabbage salad
50 Hot tub
51 — Solo
52 Possess
54 Foundation

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	A	T	A	R	I	■	T	O	N	E	R	■
S	C	A	L	E	D	■	U	N	U	S	E	D
T	E	M	P	L	E	■	R	U	M	P	L	E
A	T	A	■	Y	A	N	K	S	■	I	I	I
L	Y	R	A	■	S	E	E	■	R	E	V	S
L	L	A	M	A	■	T	Y	P	E	S	E	T
■	■	■	O	I	L	■	S	I	C	■	■	■
F	I	B	U	L	A	S	■	P	A	P	A	L
O	D	O	R	■	C	U	M	■	P	U	P	A
S	E	N	■	F	I	N	E	D	■	L	O	M
S	A	M	P	L	E	■	D	I	M	P	L	E
A	L	O	H	A	S	■	A	V	A	I	L	S
■	S	T	I	N	T	■	L	E	N	T	O	■

Saturday's answer 6-22



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Carson Daly, 36; Cyndi Lauper, 56; Meryl Streep, 60; Lindsay Wagner, 60

Happy Birthday: Consider what others want if you plan to make some changes in your life. Be open and direct about how you see things unfolding. Change is good for you right now and will produce spectacular future results. Take the initiative and believe in who you are and what you are capable of doing. Your numbers are 2, 10, 16, 25, 28, 35, 41

ARIES *(March 21-April 19)*: Trust in your knowledge and intuition to help you make the right choice about a delicate situation. It will affect your future prospects financially and professionally, so be aware of the full extent of things before moving forward with your plans. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20)*: Straight talk is all it will take to win the confidence of those you are dealing with. Friendships will develop from common interests. Don't let love stand in your way. Clear the air so you can pursue your dreams. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20)*: Avoid anyone stifling your plans or pushing responsibilities your way. Spend more time with people who participate in events that will enable you to gain ground. The more you network, the more interest you will attract. ✪✪✪

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Show your kindness and support and you will benefit. Share your ideas and plans and you will attract people who want to take part in something you are serious about pursuing. There is power in numbers. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22)*: As long as you are prepared to take responsibility for your actions, you can take a chance and do something out of the ordinary. Don't expect everyone to like what you do but there will be others who support your efforts. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)*: Being proactive will save you time and resolve issues quickly. Forget about what others do or say and look out for yourself. Change is upon you and accepting it graciously will say volumes about who you are and what you represent. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)*: Don't let anyone discourage you but do discuss your plans openly to avoid unwanted surprises. As long as you have a handle on what you are doing and how much money you need to follow through with your plans, you should feel comfortable enough to proceed. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)*: Budget carefully if you don't want to be left short at month's end. Focus more on how you can improve what you have to offer. Presenting your ideas to someone with vision will help you see what needs fine-tuning. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)*: Your enthusiasm will help you get your way. You can accomplish something remarkable if you draw the right people to make a contribution. Make an offer that is hard to refuse in order to get back on top. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)*: Your assets may need an adjustment in order to get a better return on your money. Focus on security and you will feel better about your future. An emotional situation will cause you to rethink your plans. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)*: Take another look at something you want to pursue. You should see something now that was hidden from you in the past that will help you move forward. Don't waste time and don't give up or get discouraged. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20)*: You can clarify a lot by looking back at the past and considering what you may have done differently to change the outcome. Learn from your experiences and you will be able to accomplish something now that you've longed to do for some time. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are emotional, sensitive and adaptable. You are communicative and creative and have a high regard for tradition and family.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	2	4				8	9	
			8	3	4			
	3			7			4	
1	8		2		3		6	5
3			5		8			1
2	4		6		7		3	8
	7			8			2	
			3	5	9			
	9	8				3	5	

Difficulty Level ★ 6/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

3	8	1	9	2	4	7	5	6
6	9	5	3	7	8	2	1	4
4	7	2	6	5	1	9	3	8
7	4	9	2	1	6	5	8	3
1	5	3	4	8	7	6	2	9
2	6	8	5	9	3	1	4	7
9	1	7	8	3	2	4	6	5
8	2	6	7	4	5	3	9	1
5	3	4	1	6	9	8	7	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/20

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

PREVENTING IDENTITY THEFT **Solution: 8 letters**

D	T	S	N	I	P	E	T	A	V	I	R	P	C	L
R	E	T	U	P	M	O	C	L	O	S	E	R	P	A
E	C	P	C	S	X	A	F	I	U	Q	E	O	C	N
P	H	O	A	E	P	H	O	N	E	D	L	T	A	O
O	N	L	Y	R	N	I	E	A	I	I	I	E	U	S
R	I	I	T	F	T	N	C	T	C	V	O	C	T	R
T	Q	C	R	E	I	M	O	I	E	C	P	T	I	E
N	U	E	A	L	S	R	E	C	O	P	E	A	O	P
G	E	C	N	I	S	S	Ⓔ	N	S	U	N	S	U	A
I	S	O	S	F	E	Ⓕ	E	V	T	I	S	A	S	C
S	D	P	U	G	Ⓐ	C	A	R	D	S	D	L	H	C
E	E	Y	N	Ⓢ	V	A	L	I	D	A	T	E	S	O
D	R	A	I	E	S	O	P	S	I	D	C	R	S	U
O	H	R	O	T	I	N	O	M	W	K	A	T	O	N
C	S	T	N	E	M	E	T	A	T	S	R	S	D	T

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Last Saturday's Answer: Fortified

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WHATZIT Solution: Registered nurse

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, : CIVIL ACTION NO. 04-0202
Plaintiff, :
-v- :
OSCAR PATRICK QUITUGUA, :
Defendants. :

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 9, 2005, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot 015 R 05, containing an area of 694 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 015 R 00 dated July 28, 1980, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, July 31, 2009, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Courthouse, Sinapalo, Rota, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 17th day of June, 2009;

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

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- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Barnes shoot record score on pushover course

FARMINGDALE, N.Y. (AP)—Another day at the U.S. Open ended with a familiar drill. Players dodged puddles in the parking lot as they headed to their cars, a round left incomplete for the third straight day. The maintenance crew grabbed squeegees and pumps as they headed out to Bethpage Black to wage a losing battle against the rain.

Not so familiar were some of the numbers on the leaderboard—and the names next to them.

Ricky Barnes, who took six years to reach the big leagues, is now in the record book with the lowest 36-hole score in the 109 years of the U.S. Open. He knocked in a 45-foot birdie putt on his 17th hole Saturday, completed a bogey-free 65 in his second round and reached the tournament's halfway point at 8-under 132.

He is among eight players yet to hit a single shot in the rain.

One shot behind was Lucas Glover, whose lone PGA Tour victory came at Disney four years ago. He faced a 20-foot birdie putt for a chance to shoot 63, the lowest round ever in a major, but settled for a 64.

At least he tied the course record, set one day earlier by Mike Weir of Canada.

And this scoring assault is likely to continue.

Right when this water-logged U.S. Open began to gain traction, a burst of showers halted the third round Saturday, submerging the already saturated greens. The 60 players who made the cut, including defending champion Tiger Woods a whopping 11 shots out of the lead, were to return at 7:30 a.m. Sunday.

Sixteen players have not teed off, and could face 36 holes on Sunday—weather permitting, of course.

The U.S. Open hasn't dealt with weather like this in 25 years.

Woods was the only player to finish under par when the U.S. Open was held at Bethpage Black in 2002. Not many could have imagined the U.S. Open's 36-hole scoring record being set on this beast of a course.

"Obviously, at the beginning of the week, you didn't think that score was out there," Barnes said.

It sure wasn't for Woods, whose bid to get back into contention was stalled by too many bogeys. He had to settle for a 69, and now must match the largest 36-hole comeback in U.S. Open history if he wants a record-tying fourth title.

The previous 36-hole record was set by Jim Furyk and Vijay Singh in 2003 at Olympia Fields, another course soaked by rain.

With no chance the course can get firm and fast, no record is safe.

Birdies were dropping from all corners of the course—first in the morning by players completing their second rounds, and even some in the afternoon when the players on the wrong end of the draw tried hopelessly to catch up.

About the only thing not falling was the heavy rain predicted for early afternoon—but not for long.

Woods and Phil Mickelson, who was seven shots behind, each scrambled for par on opposite sides of the golf course. One hole into their rounds, the umbrellas came out, the rain grew strong and play was suspended.

How benign is Bethpage Black?

There already have been 45 scores in the 60s, compared with 26 scores for the week in the 2002 U.S. Open on the same course. Most of them came from the side of the draw that played 36 holes over the last two days without a drop of rain and mostly sunshine in the sky.

Barnes was on the good side.

"If you would have told me I would have been 8 under and only a one-shot lead, I would have said, 'You're kidding me,'" Barnes said. "But I'll take it. It was solid play."

Lee Westwood of England had a 66 and was at 2-under 138, the only player from the other side of the draw among the top 11.

"I actually set out today to win my side of the draw because I felt that it was a good target and all I could do given how dramatic the split was between the two sides," Westwood said. "I am very pleased with that effort."

Steve Stricker, in his hotel room Friday as the others took aim at the flags, did his best to make up ground with a 66, leaving him 1 under for the tournament and seven shots behind in a group that included Phil Mickelson, who scratched out a 70.

"You realize you got the short end of the stick," Stricker said. "I watched it yesterday and it was a birdiefest, and everybody that they showed was flying it in there and making birdies left and right. And we were struggling to make pars and stuff like that. But you can't dwell on that. Even par was my goal today, and I did one better."

Weir followed his 64 with a 70 and was two shots behind. David Duval rallied from a sluggish start for a 70 that put him in the group at 3-under 137.

Woods appeared poised to climb quickly, but for every birdie he made to build some momentum, a bogey stopped him. Woods hit 10 fairways and only missed four greens, but took 30 putts.

"Unfortunately, my score doesn't reflect how I've been playing," he said. "It is what it is. But you never know. I've got 36 more holes over the next probably three days."

He was joking—maybe.

The forecast, which can no longer be trusted at the U.S. Open, was for a chance of rain the next two days. Finishing the second round, however, at least gave the tournament a chance to finish on schedule with a marathon Sunday. That would mean 36 holes for a dozen players, including the leaders.

It also helped that only the minimum 60 players made the cut at 4-over 144. Among those headed home—and some were thankful to get out of this quagmire—were double major winner Padraig Harrington, Ernie Els and Paul Casey.

Woods at least has hope.

"It's just one of those things where if I keep plugging along like any U.S. Open ... we'll see where it ends up," Woods said.

Mickelson didn't make the most out of his good break in the weather, failing to make key putts and struggling again on the par-5 13th. In the second round, he drove into grass so deep he had to take a penalty shot for relief and took bogey. Mickelson is 3 over on that hole for the week.

Even so, he showed his imagination on the tough 15th by blasting a 19-degree hybrid out of rough so deep he could barely see his ball, from 164 yards to a 40-foot elevated green. It climbed onto the green for a safe two-putt par.

"I like the position I'm in," Mickelson said. "I think that if I can get hot with the putter, I like my chances in the next two rounds."

AP

Ricky Barnes waves to the gallery after finishing his second round of the U.S. Open Golf Championship at Bethpage State Park's Black Course in Farmingdale, N.Y., Saturday, June 20, 2009.

Bryant says he's staying with Lakers

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP)—Kobe Bryant said he plans to stay with the NBA champion Los Angeles Lakers even he if opts out of his contract this summer. Phil Jackson said his health will dictate whether he returns as coach.

Bryant met with Jackson and general manager Mitch Kupchak for an individual exit interview Friday.

The finals MVP can terminate the last two years of his contract and become an unrestricted free agent on July 1. He's spent his entire 13-year career with the Lakers, winning four NBA championships. He could get a new, longer deal if he opted out, but he wouldn't necessarily make more money.

Asked by reporters if he would opt out, Bryant said, "I've been deflecting that all year and I ain't going to stop now."

Pressed to explain, he responded, "I'm not going anywhere. I know I ain't going nowhere, so it's just a waste of our breaths just talking about it."

Bryant turns 31 in August. He averaged 32.4 points, 7.4 assists and 5.6 rebounds during the finals, when the Lakers defeated the Orlando Magic in five games.

Kupchak met with reporters before Bryant did and said, "We have no indication of what he may or may not do."

Jackson, who turns 64 in September, said he'll decide about next season after he gets some health issues checked out.

This season, he missed two West Coast road games because of pain and swelling in his lower legs caused by plantar fasciitis, an issue "that concerned me a little bit," he said. He blamed late-night flights that aggravated the condition.

He has undergone two hip replacement operations since October 2006—using a cane at various times—and walks with a noticeable hitch in his step.

"I'm feeling good," said Jackson, who was scheduled to appear on the "Tonight Show" Friday night, the same show Bryant visited two days earlier.

Jackson signed a two-year contract extension last season and holds the option on a second year. The contract contains a date by which he is required to tell the Lakers if he plans to return, but Kupchak said the team is willing to give Jackson the time he needs to see a doctor.

"That date is fast approaching next week," Kupchak said. "We're talking about hopefully getting him to indicate to us in the next week or two or three his decision."

Bryant wants Lakers management and owner Jerry Buss to bring back starter Trevor Ariza and sixth man Lamar Odom, who both become unrestricted free agents on July 1.

"Extremely critical," he said about bringing both players back. "Those are pieces that are tough to find. We have such a great team. It's rare that you find a collection of guys that are so talented and willing to sacrifice themselves for the benefit of the group.

"Now it's just about keeping this group together so we can keep on winning this thing."

Jackson also wants to see the team remain intact, including Ariza and Odom.

"I'm convinced that we can get both of these guys back," he said. "Obviously, it's going to take sacrifice on many parts."

Bryant's exit interview wrapped up a hectic week in which he led the Lakers to their 15th NBA title, made the cover of *Sports Illustrated*, hit the talk-show circuit and visited Disneyland.

His daughters, ages 6 and 3, who called him Grumpy because he frowned so much during the playoffs, are happy he's home again.

"They just want me around all the time. They're jumping on my back," he said.

Bryant's offseason plans include a trip to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, trying scuba diving, and attending a game between his favorite soccer team FC Barcelona and the Los Angeles Galaxy on Aug. 1.

"It's going to be very relaxing. No evil flashbacks," he said, referring to last season's loss to Boston in the finals.

Dodgers win in Weaver brothers showdown

ANAHEIM, California (AP)—Jeff Weaver outpitched his little brother Jered as the majors-leading Los Angeles Dodgers beat the crosstown L.A. Angels 6-4 in interleague play on Saturday.

In was the first time in seven years that brother had started against each other in the majors, but it did not quite live up to its occasions, with neither lasting six innings.

Jeff Weaver pitched five-plus innings and gave up two runs, while Jered Weaver had a rougher time. He went 5 1-3 innings and was tagged for six runs, including a home run by Russell Martin.

AP

Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Jeff Weaver is taken out of the game by manager Joe Torre, left, during the sixth inning of a baseball game in Anaheim, Calif., Saturday, June 20, 2009.

Tigers 9, Brewers 5

In Detroit, pitcher Alfredo Figaro won his major-league debut, guiding Detroit over Milwaukee.

Miguel Cabrera and Placido Polanco homered and Cabrera was one of four Tigers to finish with three hits among a team total of 17. Seven players finished with RBIs.

Detroit opened a three-game lead atop the American League Central division standings while Milwaukee ceded leadership of the National League Central to St. Louis.

Giants 2, Rangers 1, 11 innings

In San Francisco, Nate Schierholtz scored the winning run on a wild pitch with two outs in the 11th inning, as San Francisco scraped home over Texas.

Schierholtz, who entered in a double-switch in the top half, doubled off Texas pitcher Jason Jennings to start the inning. Two outs later, and following an intentional walk, Bengie Molina swung at a wild pitch that bounced in the dirt, came up and hit the catcher and bounced toward the Giants' dugout.

Red Sox 3, Braves 0

In Boston, pitcher Josh Beckett allowed just five singles for his first shutout since joining Boston, in the win over Atlanta.

Beckett rebounded from giving up a season-high 11 hits in his previous start for his first complete game of the year. He struck out seven and walked none.

Boston catcher Jason Varitek doubled twice and scored twice, helping spoil the homecoming of Red Sox pitcher Derek Lowe, who recorded the loss for the Braves.

Marlins 2, Yankees 1

In Miami, Josh Johnson pitched seven innings of three-hit ball, steering Florida past New York.

Dan Uggla homered and the Marlins took advantage of a Yankees lineup without benched slugger Alex Rodriguez.

Johnson struck out five and walked two, outpitching former Marlins teammate A.J. Burnett. The Yankees didn't do much to help their starting pitcher.

A misfield in the sixth allowed Hanley Ramirez to score from first to give the Marlins a 2-0 lead they would never lose.

Rays 3, Mets 1

In New York, Carlos Pena hit a tiebreaking homer in the seventh, lifting Tampa Bay over New York.

Rays pitcher James Shields allowed just three hits in seven innings and retired his final 14 batters. He outpitched Mets ace Johan Santana, who was back in fine form following the worst start of his career, not allowing a hit until the fifth.

Both starters were lifted after a 73-minute rain delay in the top of the eighth.

Cardinals 7, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Missouri, Khalil Greene hit a late three-run homer to help St. Louis beat near neighbor Kansas City.

Albert Pujols added a two-run shot in the sixth to put the Cardinals up 3-0 before Greene sealed victory in the ninth.

Chris Carpenter had another impressive display, outpitching Brian Bannister.

Orioles 6, Phillies 5

In Philadelphia, Brian Roberts hit a two-run homer with two outs in the ninth to give Baltimore a dramatic win over Philadelphia.

The Phillies took a 5-3 lead on flu-stricken Ryan Howard's three-run homer in the seventh, but Baltimore rallied against Ryan Madson, who has two blown saves and two losses this week in place of injured regular closer Brad Lidge.

White Sox 10, Reds 8

In Cincinnatti, Alexei Ramirez hit the last of four White Sox homers, and Chicago downed Cincinnatti.

Chicago overcame a five-run deficit by scoring its first eight runs off homers. Ramirez's three-run shot broke a 5-5 tie in the sixth.

Rockies 9, Pirates 7

In Denver, Todd Helton hit a two-run homer with one out in the ninth inning to help Colorado down Pittsburgh and win a fourth straight game.

Pinch-hitter Seth Smith singled with one out before Helton's drive into the Pirates' bullpen in right center field.

Astros 6, Twins 5

In Minneapolis, Houston scored four times in the seventh inning to overhaul Minnesota.

Lance Berkman and Michael Bourn homered for the Astros.

Mariners 7, Diamondbacks 3

In Seattle, Wladimir Balentien hit his first home run in nearly two months, helping Seattle defeat Arizona.

Mariners pitcher Jason Vargas retired 17 straight batters at one point.

Cubs 6, Indians 5, 13 innings

In Chicago, Andres Blanco hit a tying single and then scored the winning run on Kerry Wood's wild pitch in the 13th inning, lifting Chicago to consecutive remarkable wins over hapless Cleveland.

A solo homer gave the Indians a 5-4 lead in the top of the 13th. But after blowing the save Friday by giving up a ninth-inning homer, ex-Cub Wood gave up a leadoff single in the bottom of the inning.

A steal and an error moved the runner to third. With the infield playing in, Blanco slapped a grounder to tie the game, and after a single to shallow left, Wood's wild pitch brought home the winning run.

Athletics 6, Padres 3

In San Diego, Adam Kennedy tied his career high with four hits, including a home run, and scored three runs to lead Oakland over San Diego.

Kennedy and Jack Cust hit back-to-back shots with two outs in the eighth.

Kennedy had given the A's a 4-3 lead earlier when he singled, moved up on Cust's fly out and scored on another single.

Nationals 5, Blue Jays 3, 12 innings

In Washington, Willie Harris hit a two-run homer in the 12th inning to help Washington stretch their winning streak to a season-high four games, edging Toronto.

Alberto Gonzalez led off the 12th with a single and Harris ripped a 3-2 pitch into the Nationals' right-field bullpen.

Federer aims to claim 6th Wimbledon, 15th major

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)—Roger Federer is building something of a reputation as an on-court crier, and he remembers well the first time he wept after winning a match.

It was July 2, 2001, at Wimbledon, the tournament that means more to him than any other. Federer was 19, up-and-coming and making his Centre Court debut in the fourth round when he stunned Pete Sampras, who was 29, seeded No. 1 and seeking an eighth Wimbledon title.

"I used to cry almost after every single match I lost as a junior. It's not at all a feeling like it's the end of the world—of course not, because tennis is not everything—but some people can control it, some people can't," Federer said. "Crying after a victory is something that started when I beat Pete."

Back then, Federer had yet to reach the semifinals, let alone win a title, at any Grand Slam event. Eight years later, as Wimbledon begins Monday with a roof over Centre Court for the first time, Federer arrives at the All England Club bidding to break Sampras' career record of 14 major championships.

And the complexion of Federer's pursuit of a sixth Wimbledon title changed significantly Friday: He doesn't have to worry about dealing with his nemesis, defending champion Rafael Nadal, who withdrew from the tournament because of bad knees.

Nadal's exit was the talk of the grounds Saturday, and Federer called it "very disappointing for the tournament, and also for myself."

"It's unfortunate. I'm sad for him, because it must have been a very difficult decision to make," Federer said. "I'd love to play him. He's my main rival. We've had some wonderful matches over the years, and especially the one here last year was the one that obviously stands out."

Ah, yes, last year, when Nadal reduced Federer to tears by winning the longest singles final in tournament history, a 4-hour, 48-minute test of skill and will that ended 9-7 in the fifth set as darkness descended.

That 2008 setback ended Federer's streaks of 40 consecutive wins at Wimbledon and 65 in a row on grass, and he is ready to start anew.

"The focus is on the first round—and the first point," Federer said. "Trying to regain my Wimbledon crown, I guess, stands over trying to beat Pete's record right now."

There was something apt about the way Federer tied Sampras' Grand Slam mark by completing a career Grand Slam at the French Open, a tournament the American never won and that the Swiss star came so close to winning, year after year, before finally breaking through this month.

There also would be something fitting if Federer surpasses Sampras at Wimbledon, a tournament that means so much to both men—and where their paths crossed all those years ago.

"I don't feel like I have extra pressure now having to win the tournament or trying to. I mean, anyway, there's a lot of weight off my shoulders since Paris," Federer said. "So I'm entering tournaments, I guess, a little bit more relaxed these days."

On the day Federer won at Roland Garros, Sampras said he expected Federer to get No. 15 "in the next couple of weeks." Asked whether he would travel to the All England Club this year, Sampras replied: "We'll sort of see what happens."

Many current players figure Federer is set to reestablish his supremacy at Wimbledon. As 2002 champion Lleyton Hewitt put it: "Roger's going to be the one to beat."

The same must be said of the Williams sisters, particularly Venus. As has been the case with Federer in recent years, Wimbledon is their turf.

Venus has played in seven finals at the All England Club, winning five championships, including the past two. Serena has played in four finals, winning two.

Pay no heed to the rankings, which have both sisters behind No. 1 Dinara Safina. Here are the numbers that really matter: Serena has won 10 Grand Slam titles overall, and Venus seven, while Marat Safin's little sister is 0-3 in major finals.

Maria Sharapova, the 2004 Wimbledon champion, can't be counted out, even if her serve has been a trouble spot in her return from shoulder surgery, while a teenager such as Victoria Azarenka or Caroline Wozniacki—who won a grass-court title at Eastbourne on Saturday—could be ready for a breakthrough.

It seems far less likely that someone who isn't a household name will win the men's championship July 5.

For Federer, there are other laurels at stake this fortnight: He could match Nadal's feat from 2008 of winning the French Open and Wimbledon in the same season—that hadn't been done since Bjorn Borg in 1980.

Plus, Federer can reclaim the No. 1 ranking, although he said that doesn't concern him.

Right now, he is focusing on adding to his haul of major championships. He bawled during the postmatch ceremonies after another five-set setback against Nadal at the Australian Open this year, then shed tears of joy when he won the French Open.

Now comes Wimbledon.

"I do think I'm the favorite, actually, with the success I've had and how close I came again last year," said Federer, whose wife is due to give birth to their first child this summer. "Without any disrespect to any of the other players—because I think this year's field is going to be very difficult to topple."

Those words were spoken before Nadal became only the second Wimbledon men's champion in 35 years to decide not to defend his title.

Federer said the rivals chatted briefly Wednesday, and Nadal congratulated him for winning the French Open.

Mosley: 'Manny, I will enhance your legacy'

BOXING

MANILA, Philippines— With Miguel Cotto having the inside track in the prizefighting lottery featuring Manny Pacquiao, Shane Mosley is hoping that one last appeal to the Filipino superstar will shift things to his favor.

"A fight with me will make more money," Mosley told Julius Stecker in an extensive interview posted on Philboxing.com.

"Do the right thing Manny. Fight the best fight for the fans, and the best fight for your legacy. You have nothing to lose by fighting me. There will be more prestige in fighting me than Cotto. I will enhance your legacy."

Cotto has been penciled in as Pacquiao's possible foe in a Nov. 14 schedule, and the Puerto Rican has said that fighting Pacquiao would be "the pinnacle of my career."

Top Rank chief Bob Arum, who promotes both Pacquiao

Mosley

and Cotto, has contacted Cotto's camp to open discussion on the sticky issue of weight, as the reigning WBO welterweight champion is expected to stake his belt at a catch weight.

"I was on the phone with Cotto's people yesterday and I outlined to them the terms and points of the deal," Arum told the Los Angeles Times. "I expect their response by the end of the week."

Arum said Pacquiao told him again recently that he wants to fight Cotto. Arum has a Sunday meeting scheduled in Las Vegas with Pacquiao's business advisor Michael Koncz to discuss specifics of the deal.

"Koncz will take that information to Manny next week, we'll have further conversations then, and then likely put this thing to bed," Arum said.

One of the potential sticking points has already been defined, Arum revealed Thursday. He said a consultation with Cotto's nutritionist has made it clear the catch weight must be in the 144- to 145-pound range.

"Cotto is a welterweight and the nutritionist is saying the lowest he can go is 144," Arum said. "Manny will be fine with that. He doesn't want a guy to get in there and injure himself by fighting at an unrealistically low weight. ***(PDI)***

AUSTRALIA

From Page 28

quarter, taking an 18-12 lead, with William Stinnett sparking the team's good start, firing eight points. The Boomers committed several turnovers in the opening canto and could not get their outside shooting and inside game going.

Adjustments were made in the second quarter and Sean Mullan anchored Australia's comeback. However, with Joe Blas scoring six straight points for Guam, the U.S. territory kept the lead at halftime, 26-25.

The third quarter continued to be a slow game for both teams, offensively, as they traded errors. Finally, Australia grabbed the upperhand on Jeromie Hill's basket, 37-36.

The fourth period was a close match until in the last four minutes of the game when Guam could no longer hang on, allowing the Boomers to escape with the 15-point win.

Daly top-scored for Australia with 15 points, while Hill added 11.

Blas paced Guam with 16 markers, while Stinnett made 10, but was scoreless in the second half.

In the women's division, Australia's Opals had an easier debut, routing New Caledonia, 77-19.

New Caledonia scored the first basket of the game with less than a minute gone by in the opening period. However, it was an all Opals show after that, as they finished the first period with a whopping 20-3 lead.

The next three quarters saw Australia outgunning and outrebounding its foe for the lopsided win. Hope Terdich led the Opals with her 13 points, while Caitlin Rowe chipped in 12.

Marie-Helene Trocas was the top scorer for New Caledonia with six markers.

Two more games were played in the opening day and featured the CNMI Men's and Women's National Teams.

The CNMI cagebelles were to duel Guam, while the CNMI Men's Nationals were to square off with New Zealand in the last game of the night after the opening ceremony.

Men's

Australia 57 – Daly 12, Hill 11, Simpson 9, Bairstow 8, Wilcher 5, Purser 4, Warbout 4, Maxwell 2, Phillips 2.

Guam 42 – Blas 16, Stinnett 10, Borja 6, Fejeran 4, Estelle 4, Han 2.

Scoring by quarters: 12-18, 25-26, 37-36, 57-42.

Women's

Australia 77 – Terdich 13, Rowe 12, Campigli 8, Seekamp 8, Cole 7, Lobb 7, Creed 6, Murray 6, Mangos 6, Guest 4.

New Caledonia 19 – Trocas 6, Fenuafanote 5, Koteureu 5, Passa 3.

Scoring by quarters: 20-3, 40-10, 56-16, 77-19.

REZNE

From Page 28

to stop swimming for a while and in the process lost valuable seconds to brothers Shin and Kensuke Kimura as well as contender Yusuke Kaneko.

Wong said he began catching up to them as he finally saw the rays of sun at the last few meters of the race.

"That's when I regained my strength and momentarily forget the pain," said Wong, who bowed down to his knees at the finish line holding his neck, as he felt sick with the sting of jellyfish.

Shin Kimura eventually finished second to Wong, as he came out of the water with a time of 19.39.

Kaneko finished third with 19.40, while Kensuke Kimura was fourth with his 19.41.

Tatsuya Mochimaru led the 23-35 years old category by clocking in at 27.29. Ed Johnson won the 40-45 with his time of 27.45, while Ikuji Tanaka emerged on top in the 61-67 by crossing the finish line with a time of 43.07.

Sachiko Suzuki, a 31-year-old who was part of the large Japanese delegation that took part in the race, topped the female division with a time of 24.04.

Angel Marie Tan, a 10-year-old Tsunami Saipan swimmer, came in second place with a time of 24.37, while another Japanese visitor, 39-year-old Keiki Ikekawa was third with her 25.11.

In the 20-27 years old category, Blumel Ramon was first with her 33.13. Atsuko Masuda topped the 46-59 with a time of 33.26 and Kazue Noguchi won the 60-67 with a time of 40.23.

Organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority, the race attracted a total of 58 competitors mostly from the visiting Central Sports Club of Japan.

The overall male and female winners, Wong and Suzuki, pocketed $300 each plus fins and trophy, while the second and third place winners went home with $200 and $100, respectively, plus trophies. The age group winners (first to third) went home with medals and gift items.

RANGERS

From Page 28

Rangers at the bottom of the second and singled. He later reached home plate on a Kelvin Kapileo single. Kapileo, J.J. Laniyo, Hector Efraim, and Pat Alepuyo followed suit, allowing the Rangers to grab the lead, 5-3.

Laniyo scored the Rangers' second run after Alepuyo advanced to first, as the latter was hit by a pitch from Thomas Joab. Kapileo made it home off Jess Iguel's base on ball, while Efraim gave the Rangers their fifth run on Clifton Sillil'sacrifice fly to rightfield.

The Falcons remained in the thick of the fight, 3-5, as they added two more runs at the top of the second inning on Rangers errors. Centerfielder Lawrence Dikito scored on Sillil's fielding error, while J.D. Dikito also made it to home plate on another Sillil miscue.

The Rangers also tallied two runs at the bottom of the third with Kapileo scoring his second run on Sablan's error and Iguel bringing Alepuyo home at the bottom of the third inning.

After the Falcons made four hits in the first two innings, Rangers pitcher Shane Yamada allowed only two in the next three innings, while his teammates on the outfield stood their ground to shut out their foes from the fourth to sixth inning.

J.R. Suel's one-run double at the top of the seventh inning broke the Falcons' silence, but Tanapag still fell short, as it logged only one run in the last two innings. Henry Iguel recorded the Falcons fifth and last run at the top of the ninth inning on a Suel single.

With one out and Suel on first and Nikko Martin on second, Dikito stepped up to the plate, but flied out to leftfield. The Falcons' chances to complete an upset over the Rangers ended when third baseman Nunu Kapileo was beaten to first with second baseman Kelvin Kapileo throwing to Taisacan.

Iguel went 3-for-5 at bat for the Rangers. He made no runs, but had two RBIs.

The Rangers will face in the best-of-five finals the winner of the Rock Steady-D-9ers semis pairing. Rock Steady and the D-9ers will duel in the deciding Game 3 tonight.

HARDWICKE

From Page 28

the same course last June 13, but the greens and fairways were a bit soggy, as it rained before and during the tournament. Hardwicke carded a 2-over par 74 in the NMC event and was behind by two strokes against Kang, who tallied an even par 72.

In his triumphant return to the Kagman facility, Hardwicke defeated Koreans Jang Won Lee and Bae Yong Man, who recorded a 1-under par 72 and 2-over par 74, respectively. Eleven other par-busters joined the Championship Flight of the one-day tournament.

Hardwicke was consistent with his game on the west course, firing a 1-under par 35 on both nines.

Other top finishers in four other flights were Alex Tudela (A Flight), Joe Sablan Sr. (B Flight), Arthur Camacho (B Flight), and Shirley Jones (Ladies).

There was a triple tie for first in the A Flight with Tudela, Joe Sablan, Jr. and Jess Taitano having identical gross scores of 6-over par 78. But Tudela won in the scorecard playoff, while Sablan, Jr. settled for second and Taitano dropped to third. Taitano and Tudela both shot a 40 and 38 on the front and back nines, respectively, while Sablan, Jr. had a 41 on the front and a 37 on the back.

Sablan Sr. was one-stroke ahead of Lee Young in the B Flight with the former drilling a 3-over par 75 against the latter's 4-over 76. Ray Villagomez was at a distant third with his 9-over par 81.

Camacho also tallied a 9-over par 81, but it was enough to win him first place in the C Flight, as he was two shots better than his closest pursuers. Joe Rosario and Dave Cepeda tied with identical gross scores of 82, but the former prevailed in the scorecard playoff, dropping the latter to third.

Jones was alone at the top spot in the Ladies Flight with his 10-over par 82. The first finisher in the Ladies Flight was decided by gross scores, while the runner-up and third placer were based on net scores. Vicky Borja had a net 70 to place second, while Alice Taitano saved third place after carding a net 71.

The Top 3 finishers in each flight received cash prizes, while organizers also awarded prizes to winners of closest to the pin shots on four holes. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos gave the prizes to winners in a brief award ceremony at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort's driving range.

Tony Satur won the closest to the pin shot in hole No. 3, while Kwan Yong Sok prevailed in No. 7, Manny Blas in No. 13, and Masahi Nakamura in No. 17.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	41	27	.603	–
New York	38	30	.559	3
Toronto	37	33	.529	5
Tampa Bay	36	34	.514	6
Baltimore	31	37	.456	10

Central Division

Detroit	37	31	.544	–
Minnesota	35	35	.500	3
Chicago	32	36	.471	5
Kansas City	29	38	.433	7 1/2
Cleveland	29	41	.414	9

West Division

Texas	37	30	.552	–
Los Angeles	36	30	.545	1/2
Seattle	34	34	.500	3 1/2
Oakland	30	37	.448	7

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	36	30	.545	–
New York	34	32	.515	2
Florida	34	36	.486	4
Atlanta	32	35	.478	4 1/2
Washington	20	46	.303	16

Central Division

St. Louis	38	31	.551	–
Milwaukee	37	31	.544	1/2
Chicago	33	31	.516	2 1/2
Cincinnati	34	33	.507	3
Houston	31	35	.470	5 1/2
Pittsburgh	31	37	.456	6 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	45	24	.652	–
San Francisco	36	31	.537	8
Colorado	35	33	.515	9 1/2
San Diego	29	38	.433	15
Arizona	29	40	.420	16

Yesterday's Games

Chicago Cubs 6, Cleveland 5, 13 innings
Detroit 9, Milwaukee 5
St. Louis 7, Kansas City 1
Tampa Bay 3, N.Y. Mets 1
Baltimore 6, Philadelphia 5
Washington 5, Toronto 3, 12 innings
Boston 3, Atlanta 0
Houston 6, Minnesota 5
Florida 2, N.Y. Yankees 1
Chicago White Sox 10, Cincinnati 8
Colorado 9, Pittsburgh 7
L.A. Dodgers 6, L.A. Angels 4
San Francisco 2, Texas 1, 11 innings
Oakland 6, San Diego 3
Seattle 7, Arizona 3

U.S. OPEN SCORES

FARMINGDALE, New York (AP) — Scores Saturday from the U.S. Open on the 7,426-yard, par-70 Black Course at Bethpage State Park (a-amateur):

Completed Second Round

Ricky Barnes	67-65-132
Lucas Glover	69-64-133
Mike Weir	64-70-134
Azuma Yano	72-65-137
David Duval	67-70-137
Peter Hanson	66-71-137
a-Nick Taylor	73-65-138
Sean O'Hair	69-69-138
Ross Fisher	70-68-138
Todd Hamilton	67-71-138
Lee Westwood	72-66-138
Gary Woodland	73-66-139
Phil Mickelson	69-70-139
Steve Stricker	73-66-139
Ryan Moore	70-69-139
J.B. Holmes	73-67-140
Sergio Garcia	70-70-140
Adam Scott	69-71-140
Stephen Ames	74-66-140
Hunter Mahan	72-68-140
Oliver Wilson	70-70-140
Geoff Ogilvy	73-67-140
Trevor Murphy	71-69-140
Dustin Johnson	72-69-141
Soren Hansen	70-71-141
Retief Goosen	73-68-141
Rocco Mediate	68-73-141
Michael Sim	71-70-141
a-Drew Weaver	69-72-141
John Mallinger	71-70-141
Graeme McDowell	69-72-141
Jim Furyk	72-69-141
Francesco Molinari	71-70-141
Matt Bettencourt	75-67-142
Anthony Kim	71-71-142
Rory McIlroy	72-70-142
Camilo Villegas	71-71-142
Stewart Cink	73-69-142
Jeff Brehaut	70-72-142
Bubba Watson	72-70-142
Carl Pettersson	75-68-143
Kenny Perry	71-72-143
Billy Mayfair	73-70-143
Andrew McLardy	71-72-143
Ben Curtis	72-71-143
Henrik Stenson	73-70-143
K.J. Choi	72-71-143
Angel Cabrera	74-69-143
Tiger Woods	74-69-143
Andres Romero	73-70-143
a-Kyle Stanley	70-74-144
Fred Funk	70-74-144
Tom Lehman	71-73-144
Thomas Levet	72-72-144
Jean-Francois Lucquin	73-71-144
Vijay Singh	72-72-144
Ian Poulter	70-74-144
Tim Clark	73-71-144
Kevin Sutherland	71-73-144
Johan Edfors	70-74-144

By The Associated Press

The Week in Sports

Mission accomplished for CNMI netters

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Junior Tennis Team had a good start in the 2009 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament in Guam at the beginning of the week and closed out the week with a strong finish to hit its target.

It was mission accomplished for CNMI coach Jeff Race's wards, who nailed seven slots on the North Pacific Team that will compete in the 2009 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji in August.

Making the team are Christian Miller, Rafael Jones, and Melody Johnson in the 14-and-under age group and Theecel Minor and Jodel Fernandez in the 18-and-under division. Ji Hoon Heo and Thea Minor were given automatic berths after a Final Four finish in the POJC last year.

Besides getting tickets to Fiji, Miller also ruled the boys' 14-and-under competition after beating Jones in the finals. Johnson topped the girls' 14-and-under division, while Fernandez reigned in the girls' 18-and-under. Theecel finished third to achieve the team's goal.

Earlier before the tournament began, Race said they were aiming for seven slots on the team, but he vowed to have his head shaved if the CNMI netters get eight.

Race's head is safe this year, as Benjie Decena failed to give the Commonwealth the No. 8 slot. Decena placed fourth in the boys' 18-and-under division and only the Top 3 were given seats on the team.

After one big event, here comes a bigger one, the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament, which kicked of last night.

The FIBA caging opening ceremony was held at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, which had undergone a facelift for the hosting of the tournament.

Participating teams Australia, New Zealand, Guam, and New Caledonia arrived last Saturday to join host CNMI in the tournament. Guam and Australia's men's teams opened the hostilities in the FIBA caging, while New Caledonia cagebelles collided with Australia's Opals yesterday. Also scheduled to play on Day 1 were CNMI vs. Guam in the women's and CNMI vs. New Zealand in the men's division.

While the CNMI cagers and cagebelles are starting to duel the powerhouse cage teams in the region here, the Commonwealth's youth sluggers headed to Jakarta, Indonesia last weekend to try and regain supremacy in the 2009 Asia Pacific Regional Tournament.

The CNMI sent its Junior, Senior, and Big League All-Stars to Indonesia to vie for World Series tickets. Last year, only the Big League All-Stars ruled the regionals and earned a World Series appearance.

Back to local events, the Ford Rangers gained the first finals seat in the 2009 Budweiser Saipan Major League Baseball after completing a come-from-behind win over the Tanapag Falcons last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Falcons won Game 1 of the best-of-three series, but failed to wrap up the semis affair when the Rangers prevailed in Game 2 last Monday, 11-9. The Rangers had the honor to end the series when it took Game 3 last Friday, 7-5.

The other semis series between defending champion Rock Steady and D-9ers is tied at 1-1, with the deciding Game 3 to be played tonight.

While SML games were played in cooperative weather, two basketball leagues on Saipan were not as lucky.

Micronesian Brokers, Inc. and Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan's second round meeting in the Inaugural Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League last Wednesday night at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan was rained-out.

The match was cancelled at the 2:43 mark of the fourth quarter with MBI leading at 63-59 and Fiesta's Jon March Ong was preparing for two free throws.

In the masters division of the 7th United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Basketball League, only the Bayani-MAFEA tiff was completed last Thursday. Boholanos and Northern Marianas Bartenders Association-Ebisuya played in the second game, but their match was rained out with the latter leading, 74-73, with 3:09 remaining in the fourth quarter.

The 11th PIC Seaside Grill Beach Volleyball Tournament on the Pacific Islands Club sand court went without a hitch with three teams winning the annual event.

Tyce Mister and Chris Nelson topped the men's doubles, while Melody Matson and Janna Young ruled the women's doubles.

In the four-person division, Pimp Mama prevailed over Duck Tape in the finals. Pimp Mama members were Mark McDonald, Dale Roberts, Bill Owens, Russ Quinn, and Matson.

JOE CORELLA
The five CNMI members of the 2009 North Pacific Team, from left, Theecel Minor, Jodel Fernandez, Melody Johnson, Christian Miller, and Rafael Jones, are joined by CNMI coach Jeff Race, back row, for a group photo at the Rick Ninete Tennis Courts in Guam after the North Pacific Qualifying Tournament concluded last Friday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Pimp Mama members make faces after winning the four-person beach volleyball competition in the 11th PIC Seaside Grill Beach Volleyball Tournament on the Pacific Islands Club sand court last June 14.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Players and coaching staff of New Zealand men's team pose for a group photo at the beach front of the Saipan Grand Hotel last Saturday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MBI's George Barbo, right, goes for a layup in front of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan defenders during their rain-suspended game in the Shirley's caging last Wednesday night at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Players and coaching staff of Australia women's team pose for a group photo at the beach front of the Saipan Grand Hotel last Saturday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
NMBA-Ebisuya's William Opone, left, pulls up for a jumper against Boholano's Art Trajano a few minutes before their game in the masters division of the UFO caging last Thursday night at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan was halted by rain.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Rangers' Pete Tomokane waits for the umpire to finish clearing the plate during the deciding Game 3 of their semis series against the Tanapag Falcons in the 2009 Budweiser Major League Baseball last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Barnes shoot record score on pushover course

Another day at the U.S. Open ended with a familiar drill. Players dodged puddles in the parking lot as they headed to their cars, a round left incomplete for the third straight day. **24**

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Mission accomplished for CNMI netters

The CNMI Junior Tennis Team had a good start in the 2009 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament in Guam at the beginning of the week and closed out the week with a strong finish to hit its target. **27**

Australia survives Guam in opener

Opals clobber Francophone cagebelles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Australia's men's team rallied from a slow start to foil Guam's upset bid in the opening day of the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Boomers struggled playing in an unfamiliar court and its humid condition, but managed to recover in time en route to a 57-42 victory over Guam.

Guam remained in contention, as it was behind by only four, 44-40, when things fell apart for Saipan's neighbor in the last 4:23 of the match.

Guam made only six points in the fourth period, after it was forced to shoot from outside, as Australia's taller frontliners were ganged up on them inside the paint. Guam was held to a solitary field goal in the last 4:23 of the game.

In contrast, the Boomers had a 13-2 windup with Thomas Daly and 6'11" Cameron Bairstow drilling five points apiece.

Guam stunned Australia in the first

See AUSTRALIA on Page 26

Australia's 6'11" center Cameron Bairstow goes up for a layup against Guam's Shintaro Okado during their men's division game in the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Australia's Catherine Guest, left, and New Caledonia's Annie Sioremu battle for the rebound during their women's division game in the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rezne rules Inaugural Open Water Flipper Race

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan standout Rezne Wong crosses the finish line in the Inaugural Saipan International Open Water Flipper Race held last Saturday in the waters around Managaha Island.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan stalwart Rezne Wong overcame jellyfish stings to win the Inaugural Saipan International Open Water Flipper Race around Managaha Island last Saturday.

Bucking immobilizing pain due to jellyfish attacks halfway through the approximately 1-kilometer race, the 18-year-old recent Marianas High School graduate completed the race with a time of 19 minutes and 32 seconds.

He was leading the race when a jellyfish stung the side of his neck. He said the pain was so intense that he had

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Hardwicke triumphs in Ben & Eloy fundraiser

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Adam Hardwicke returned to the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort last Saturday and was greeted by perfect weather, allowing him to win the Ben & Eloy Inos Fundraising Tournament.

Hardwicke shot a 2-under par 70 to rule the Championship Flight in the fundraiser that drew around 100 golfers.

"I played in a perfect condition. It was a bit easy this weekend compared to last week," said Hardwicke, who was runner-up to Dandan Driving Range instructor Seung Woo Kang in the 7th Annual NMC Foundation Open Golf Tournament.

The NMC fundraiser was held on

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Championship Flight winner Adam Hardwicke is flanked by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, left, and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos during the awards ceremony for the 2009 Ben & Eloy Fundraising Tournament at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

Rangers return to SML finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Ford Rangers secured the first finals seat in the 2009 Budweiser Saipan Major League after outclassing the Tanapag Falcons in the deciding Game 3 of their semis series, 7-5, last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

It was a come-from-behind semis triumph for the Rangers, who was stunned in Game 1, 5-12, and had to sweep the remaining two games of the best-of-three series to earn a return trip to the finals.

The Rangers took Game 2 last Monday, 11-9, to tie the series and grab the momentum.

Last season's finalist and runner-up to Rock Steady picked up where it left off in Game 3 to set a rematch with the defending champion.

A five-run bottom of the second gave the Rangers the cushion to foil another Falcons' upset bid.

The Falcons led after one and a half innings, 1-0, as a B.J. Sablan single drove Ned Norita home.

Benwachi Taisacan led off for the

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